

FACULTÉ SAINT – JEAN NEWS



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
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FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN NEWS

OUR VISION

That the Faculté Saint-Jean be recognized as the institution of choice for French-language university education by Francophone and Francophile students in Western Canada and beyond.

OUR MISSION

Faculté Saint-Jean's *raison d'être* is to provide, through teaching and research activities, a quality university education in the French language. Established to meet the educational needs of Francophones, Faculté Saint-Jean welcomes everyone who wishes to pursue post-secondary studies in a French-speaking milieu.

IN THIS ISSUE

NICANDRO E FILENO

LOST AND FOUND

Professor **Albert La France** pulled off a veritable *coup*! On December 19, 2001, the opera *Nicandro e Fileno*, written by Paolo Lorenzani (1640-1713), was introduced to connoisseurs of baroque music in Paris. This pastoral opera was essentially *lost* as it lay unidentified amongst a myriad of documents for 320 years. Thanks to Professor La France's expertise in baroque music and his determined efforts, it resurfaced to the amazement and delight of a full house at l'Opéra Royal du Château de Versailles.

The Faculté Saint-Jean (FSJ) professor had long ago been bitten by the Lorenzani *bug*, for his doctoral thesis was on the sacred music of this Italian composer. He knew that only one of Lorenzani's operas still existed. "It is possibly the only opera having survived in which one finds an Italian style adapted to the tastes of the French people of the era; it is quite unique", says the musicologist. Twenty years after his doctoral studies, Professor La France–who has been teaching music for 30 years at Saint-Jean–was invited, during one of his sabbaticals, to work at the Centre de Musique baroque de Versailles (CMBV) to prepare, edit, and then publish the opera in modern musical notation. He is only the second Canadian to have been invited to work within that illustrious institution. Upon returning to Edmonton, the professor pursued his work on the definitive catalogue of his favorite composer.



Albert La France, Vincent Berthier de Lioncourt, General Director of Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles (CMBV), Noëline Berthier de Lioncourt, Claudette Tardif, and Jean Duron, Artistic Director and Director of Research at CMBV.

On April 13, 2002, Professor La France directed the Chorale Saint-Jean in its spring concert at All Saints' Anglican Cathedral in Edmonton, reviving a 200-year-old Lorenzani composition that he had edited, *Magnificat a Nove Cencertato*.

When asked how he feels about the attention surrounding his accomplishments, Albert La France's face lights up: "It's a dream come true, the crowning glory of my career… Not bad for a little guy from Saint-Paul, Alberta!" **Very good, indeed, Professor La France!** ◆

DEAN'S MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to present an English edition of our newsletter *Nouvelles de Saint-Jean*. The French edition, published three times yearly, has been an important means of communication with our alumni and friends. *This new initiative exemplifies Faculté Saint-Jean's interest in increasing communication and links with the greater community, and is part of the Faculté's four-year strategic plan to broaden the profile of the Faculté locally, nationally, and internationally.* This summary edition provides a general faculty update and highlights of the 2001-2002 academic year.

This has been another exciting year for the Faculté Saint-Jean! Numerous activities and events marked a very productive year for staff and students. The excellence of our staff was recognized by a **Rutherford Award** for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and a **McCalla Professorship** for Excellence in Research. Thanks to the work of a **musicologist** from the Faculté, an opera written 320 years ago was resurrected and played at the Royal Opera House in the Château de Versailles in France. The excellence of Faculté Saint-Jean, as an institution promoting the French language and culture, was recognized nationally by the Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française who awarded its 2002 Trophy to Faculté Saint-Jean for the excellence and diversity of its programs and activities.



Claudette Tardif

Students were at the heart of the Faculté's activities over the past year. One of the first initiatives of the academic year was the orientation weekend for all new students held at Camp He-Ho-Ha in mid-September. Numerous students received scholarships and awards, and were recognized in an Awards Ceremony held at the Faculté in the fall. A group of third and fourth-year students in the Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce Program accompanied one of their professors to Montreal during Reading Week for a series of seminars held at McGill University and l'École des Hautes Études Commerciales, and a visit to four Bombardier Inc. plants.

As part of its four-year strategic plan, the Faculté is establishing itself as an emerging centre of excellence in Études canadiennes/Canadian Studies. A Master of Arts in Études canadiennes was approved by the Board of Governors in December 2001 for implementation in September 2003. The first **Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Études canadiennes/ Canadian Studies** has proven to be most successful. Four prestigious keynote speakers–His Excellency John Ralston Saul, Laurent Beaudoin, Gérard Bouchard, and Claude Couture–delivered top-notch presentations as part of the Lecture Series. The Faculté is convinced that these lectures play a key role in informing the larger public on major issues relating to the study of Canada, and in "Connecting Canadians". The newly renovated Centre Saint-Jean, housing the newly established Centre d'études canadiennes and the Institut pour le patrimoine de la francophonie de l'Ouest canadien, has been the hub of numerous professional and community activities throughout the year.

Being proud of our Faculty's accomplishments and continued successes, I look forward to sharing our vision of development in coming years and to keeping you informed regarding new programs, activities, and events. It is my hope that you will enjoy our English edition of the Faculté Saint-Jean Newsletter. I would love to receive your comments and suggestions.



Heather Deutsch, Marc de la Bruyère, Claudette Tardif, Stacy Schiff, and Raymond Chrétien

ALUMNI RECEPTION IN PARIS

Dr. **Claudette Tardif**, Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean, and **Ian Reade**, Director of Integrated Marketing, co-hosted the University of Alberta's first Alumni reception in Paris on March 28, 2002. Among the dignitaries attending this year's reception at the Centre Inter-Allié, in the Faubourg St-Honoré, were **Raymond Chrétien**, Canada's ambassador to Paris, **Philippe Guérin**, Executive Officer, Chamber of Commerce France-Canada, **Marc de la Bruyère**, and writer **Stacy Schiff**. ◆

LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES

The **Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Études canadiennes/ Canadian Studies** is an integral part of the Louis Desrochers Professorship in Études canadiennes/Canadian Studies inaugurated during a tribute dinner in honour of Louis Desrochers held on November 3, 1999.

The series brings distinguished scholars from across Canada and beyond to the Faculté Saint-Jean. It advances interdisciplinary teaching and research about Canada and promotes the theme of 'Connecting Canadians'. The first year of the lecture series was most successful with nearly 2000 people in attendance.


John Ralston Saul

Renowned essayist and novelist **John Ralston Saul** presented the inaugural address of the Louis Desrochers Lecture Series to a full house at Myer Horowitz Theater, University of Alberta, on September 24, 2001. Her Honour, the Honourable Lois Hole, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, brought words of greetings from the Government of Alberta, and was extremely well received by the audience.

His Excellency spoke on the need for citizens to participate fully in our complex society. His public life with her Excellency the Right Honourable **Adrienne Clarkson**, Governor General of Canada, offers him a unique perspective on this issue. The philosopher warned the audience against forgetting where they came from, lest their identity rest solely on the mirrored reflection others afford them. "Countries have a very real memory", stated the keynote speaker. Mr. Saul went on to explain that the Native peoples of Canada, and French and English Canadians share a common history that goes back nearly five hundred years, with each component of our history having its own importance. John Ralston Saul is known for his passionate defence of freedom of expression. In 1996, he won the Governor General's Literary Prize for his book, *La Civilisation inconsciente/ The Unconscious Civilization*. This book also garnered him the Gordon Montador Prize for the best Canadian work on contemporary social issues. In 2001, he completed his trilogy on social concerns in his latest work, *On Equilibrium*.

Laurent Beaudoin, a Companion of the Order of Canada and Chairman of the Board and of the Executive Committee, Bombardier Inc., was guest speaker at a luncheon in his honour at the Westin Hotel, in Edmonton, on November 22, 2001. His great humanism touched the more than 500 people who attended this function. The audience gave him a rousing ovation when he stated that "it is deplorable that we have spent more time over the last half-century talking about the Constitution than about the economy ". Mr. Beaudoin believes that Canadians share a set of values, among which are those of the equality of the sexes and a belief in the justice system to settle differences. A true citizen of the world, the guest speaker challenged Canada to increase its level of literacy in the sciences and in mathematics, and to be more innovative. The successful businessman believes that innovation represents the most important strategy at Canada's disposal in order to ensure its success in the global arena, where competition is fierce.


Laurent Beudoin


Gérard Bouchard

The third 'Connecting Canadians' lecture was presented by Professor **Gérard Bouchard**, winner of the 2000 Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction for his work *Genèse des nations et cultures du Nouveau Monde*. The capacity crowd that filled the Faculté Saint-Jean auditorium on February 28, 2002, was treated to a most captivating presentation on the collective imaginary, the identification of what is particular to a nation and preconceived notions that should be discarded. Following the illustrious historian's presentation, many– who had been taught history by rote questions and answers–stated that had they had such an interesting history teacher, they would surely have pursued studies in this domain. Professor Bouchard deplores the fact that young Canadians affirm that history is important, in one breath, then proceed to create their identity while completely ignoring the past. He believes that "it is from one's past that one weaves the web of one's cultural identity".

The fourth lecture was presented at the Centre Saint-Jean by the Director of the Centre d'études canadiennes, Dr. **Claude Couture**. Once again, a capacity crowd turned up for the event. The Canadian history professor spoke on 'Canadian Studies, globalization, and theories of nationalism'. Currently, his research deals with the difficult


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Louis Desrochers Lecture Series
continued from page 3...

question of defining the concept of 'Canadian'. According to the historian, "the definite individualism of modern societies results in an identity quest due to the erosion of standards". Globalization, if it erodes standards, also creates a great national need of 'belonging'. "There is a need to identify with narratives, some of whose most important elements sometimes are … what is not stated." Since his arrival at the Faculté in 1988, Professor Couture has published seven books, including *Pierre Elliott Trudeau et le libéralisme canadien* (Paris, L'Harmattan, 1996). His next book will be published in the fall of 2002.

This year's Louis Desrochers Lecture Series was generously supported by the following sponsors: Syncrude Canada Ltd., The Edmonton Journal, Global TV, Transalta, Weber Shandwick Worldwide, La Chambre économique de l'Alberta, Communications Canada, and CHFA–Radio-Canada. ◆



Claude Couture

LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES 2002-2003

September 24, 2002	**Beverley McLachlin**	Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada
January 30, 2003	**Renée Dupuis**	Specialist in matters of relations with Native peoples and Winner of the Governor General's Prize in 2001
March 27, 2003	**Sherry Simmons**	Specialist in translation theory and literary theory in both French and English Canada

FSJ WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



Denis Paradis, Secretary of State (Francophonie), Normand Fortin, CERF director, and Gérald C. Boudreau, president of ACELF

Faculté Saint-Jean has been awarded the Actifs et Fiers (Active and Proud) trophy for the year 2002 by l'Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française (ACELF) [Canadian Association for Education in the French Language].

Faculté Saint-Jean received this national award because of the excellence and wide variety of activities it held from March 10 to March 24 during the *Semaine nationale de la francophonie 2002*. **Dr. Normand Fortin**, Director of the Centre d'enseignement et de recherche en français (CERF) [Centre for Teaching and Research in French–at the Faculté] was in Hull, Quebec, on March 20th, 2002, to receive the distinguished award from **Dyane Adam**, Commissionner of Official Languages, during *La Journée internationale de la Francophonie du gouvernement du Canada* [The International Day of the Francophonie of the Government of Canada].

CERF offers a variety of French as a Second Language Programs throughout the year. 'Parlons français' (Let's Speak French) courses begin in October, January and March of each year. Courses run for 10 weeks. The Centre also offers intensive 5-week French programs in Spring (Edmonton, AB), and Summer (La Pocatière, QC) sessions. This year, CERF is adding a new component in inaugurating 'French for Teachers', a 5-week program, also in La Pocatière. Participants are from Alberta and British Columbia, and mainly from remote areas where the teacher responsible for French instruction is often without peers with whom to converse in French. Candidates from all of Canada are welcome. Moreover, CERF administers the Canadian Government's program, French Language Training Canada, for Federal civil servants in Edmonton and Yellowknife. In Edmonton, these courses are given at Canada Place, and members of the community can join one of these classes if space is available. For further information regarding any of these courses, please contact Danielle Nantel, Administrative Assistant, at 465-8600. ◆

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN'S FIRST DEAN RETIRES

Professor **Frank McMahon** will officially retire on July 1st, 2002. He has spent nearly forty years at the institution now called Faculté Saint-Jean. He was a student at the Collège Saint-Jean in the fifties; completed his sophomore studies in 1954, and entered the novitiate of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1955.

In 1967, when Father Arthur Lacerte, o.m.i.–who at that time was rector of Collège Saint-Jean–left for Manitoba, Frank McMahon was catapulted into an area where he did not quite feel at ease; namely, that of administration. "I was not particularly attracted to that type of work", says he without pretense. However, he would dedicate a large part of his professional life to administration: as rector of Collège Saint-Jean from 1967 to 1971, dean of the Collège universitaire Saint-Jean from 1971-1976, and first dean of the Faculté Saint-Jean from 1977 to 1980.

"**I am retiring from a full-time job, taking with me some excellent memories– especially with regard to bright and committed colleagues–as well as a feeling of accomplishment.** I have lived through the transformation of the Collège into a faculty of the University of Alberta. Today's Faculté Saint-Jean is in good shape: the education sector is well established, and new programs of study have been added. Many of my colleagues have already acquired an international reputation for their research and publications. Le Centre d'enseignement et de recherche en français (CERF) [Centre for Teaching and Research in French], le Centre de communication orale et écrite (CCOÉ) [Student Centre for Oral and Written Communication], and the F.U.N. 101 week-end [a first-year orientation week-end of various activities in French in an enchanting setting] are all means of helping our students improve their language competency. [...] **I am convinced that we are in the process of creating a milieu that fosters French competency within a university setting of high caliber.**"



Claudette Tardif, Frank McMahon, and his wife Rosemarie

It must also be said that the Francophone community has often asked Frank McMahon's help. He was president of the Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta from 1973-1975, and a trustee of the first Francophone Regional School Board (1994 – 1998). Frank knew, at a very young age, how to make the best of a political situation: his baptismal certificate in Saint-Paul reveals that he was baptized *François*, while the public registers identify him as *Francis*. His solution? Choosing a name for himself and having people call him *Frank*.

Frank McMahon did his pre-school and the first two years of elementary school in French in the small, but very Francophone, village of Saint-Paul. His Irish father, Michael Francis McMahon, a representative of the United Grain Growers Association of Alberta, had asked for a posting there: "My father was ambitious and wanted us to have a good education. In Ireland, at the turn of the century, cultivated people knew French. He also wanted Joan Mailhot, our mother, to be able to raise her family in a Francophone milieu. [...] My maternal grand-father lived with us late in his life, and that helped us with our French, as he spoke that language very well."

In 1977, Frank McMahon married **Rosemarie Wykes**. They have four children – Claire, Nathalie [B. Ed., FSJ, 2002], Marc-André, and Tara – as well as a grandson, Antoine Patrice, born April 5, 2002.

On May 10, 2002, colleagues, friends, and family members gathered at Centre Saint-Jean for a farewell celebration in Frank's honor.

Retirement projects? Pursuing his work as Director of the Institut pour le patrimoine de la francophonie de l'Ouest canadien (Institute for Western Canadian Francophone Heritage), and, if possible, returning to his first passion, the preparation of teachers in Cameroon, where he has already worked. Time will tell, and Frank looks forward to the future.◆

EXCELLENCE RECOGNIZED
McCALLA PROFESSORSHIP



Just ask professor **Dennis Gignac** a question about his latest research project, and his eyes sparkle. Thanks to a McCalla Professorship[1], he has spent the 2001-2002 academic year directing a two-tier research project on (1) the effects of climate on peat bogs, and (2) the effects of deforestation caused by agriculture on the biodiversity of plants.

North America boasts vast marsh areas that are very sensitive to climactic changes. The vegetation varies widely from one end of Canada to the other; consequently, there is a great diversity of species to study. Professor Gignac's research will simplify the complexity of this biodiversity by grouping related species. The scientist will then be able to quantify the distribution of each group according to ecological, climactic, and geographical factors. This is the first step in forecasting changes in landscape and in the vegetation of the peat bogs that will occur because of global warming.

With regard to the effects of deforestation, his research concentrates on the agricultural lands in the northern regions of Alberta, firstly in Athabasca and secondly in the Peace River area. There was a wide biodiversity of plants in these Alberta regions formerly covered by boreal forests; now, however, one finds only isolated woodland areas. Dennis Gignac seeks answers to the following questions: "Do these isolated woodlands contain all the biodiversity formerly found in the area or are they too small to sustain all of it? Have some species disappeared? Are some species threatened with extinction? Are the species of the right size? Has their shape changed because of deforestation? Which fragments contain the highest level of biodiversity? [...] All this with a view to producing a development plan for farmers so that they might preserve the maximum of biodiversity on their land." According to the passionate researcher, "many farmers are interested in protecting their little fragments of forest land in order to preserve as much of the biodiversity as possible. They are proud of their land parcel. If time permits, we will also begin a study on the effects of grazing on shrubby vegetation, since many farmers have animals pasturing on their lands."

Dr. Gignac hails from Ontario. He holds a master's in science from Laurentian University (Sudbury, ON), and a doctorate in science from the University of Alberta (Edmonton, AB). He has been a professor at Faculté Saint-Jean for ten years. ◆

[1] The McCalla Professorship was named after the first dean of the University of Alberta's Faculty of Graduate Studies, Dr. Arthur G. McCalla. Three of these professorships are attributed each year to small university faculties.

RUTHERFORD AWARD AND FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN'S TEACHING PRIZE

Professor **Florence Gobeil-Dwyer** was a recipient this past academic year of a Rutherford Award in recognition of the excellence of her teaching to undergraduate students. This is the 19th year the University of Alberta has highlighted some of its teaching staff in this manner.

Over and above a remarkable academic and professional career, it was the professor's project, F.U.N. 101 (Orientation Weekend at Camp He-Ho-Ha), that captured the attention of the selection committee. This Orientation Weekend, now in its second year of existence, aims at fostering a sense of belonging amongst Faculté Saint-Jean's first-year students. Professors and students get to know each other in idyllic surroundings. "We want the students to get used to communicating with each other in French, and to create a bond amongst new students, second and first-year students, and professors", says Professor Gobeil-Dwyer.



In the photo, Dr. Gobeil-Dwyer is being congratulated by the University of Alberta's Provost and Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Doug Owram. In accepting this recognition of her work, Professor Gobeil-Dwyer created an analogy between a Sioux word *tiospaye*–meaning the people with whom we have shared a roof–and her colleagues and students at the Faculté Saint-Jean: "You have shown me that the blood of our ancestors runs in my veins, and that these ancestors demand a commitment and a faithfulness to traditions, mores, customs, rituals, language, and beliefs. You have made me see that I am firmly rooted in this Francophone milieu that is the Faculté since it is here that one can immerse oneself in this identity, that one feels at home."

In the Spring of 2001, Professor Gobeil-Dwyer also received the annual teaching award of the Faculté Saint-Jean. ◆

CONGRATULATIONS!

Faculté Saint-Jean extends warm congratulations to all of its **scholarship recipients**, to its **professors**, and **former students**, all of whom have distinguished themselves in 2001-2002.

Professor **Marc de Montigny** (physics-mathematics, FSJ) received the Faculté's research prize for 2001-2002 in recognition of the excellence of his research in the field of theoretical physics. Professor de Montigny has received a second research grant (four-year duration) from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC-Canada).

Professor **Donald Ipperciel** has received Faculté Saint-Jean's teaching prize for 2001-2002. He is also a recipient of a SSHRC grant. He has been a professor of philosophy at FSJ since 1996.

Professor **Claude Couture**, Director of the Centre d'études canadiennes at Faculté Saint-Jean, has been named associate editor of the *International Journal of Canadian Studies*, one of the most prestigious publications in Canadian studies.

Faculté Saint-Jean extends its congratulations to **Vital Ouellette**, one of its former graduates [B. A., 1978]. On April 18, 2002, the Honourable Martin Cauchon, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announced his nomination to the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta. Judge Ouellette's eldest daughter, Maryse, is following in her father's footsteps, having completed two years of study at Saint-Jean before pursuing her studies in law at Université de Moncton. His youngest daughter, Nadia, is a second-year B.A. student at Faculté Saint-Jean. Vital Ouellette was formerly from Brosseau (AB).

Faculté Saint-Jean also wishes to congratulate **Hervé Durocher** LLD, who has recently been nominated to the Senate of the University of Alberta. He is also President of the Faculté's External Advisory Board. In the past, he served as Honorary Chair of the Faculté's fund-raising committee for the Residence Centre project. ◆

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Arts (General and Honours)
- Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce[1]
- Bachelor of Education
- Bachelor of Science
- B. Ed./B. Sc.
- First-year Engineering Program[2]
- Master of Education
- Master of Arts[3]

[1] In partnership with the School of Business
[2] In collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering
[3] Études canadiennes/Canadian Studies-Sept. 2003

MEETING WITH CEOs IN MONTRÉAL

During Reading Week of February 2002, the Bombardier Chair in Entrepreuneurship, Professor **Pablo Martin de Holan**, visited the Bombardier Foundation in Montréal. As well, he and his students from the Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce Program visited four Bombardier manufacturing plants (Valcourt and Dorval) where Ski-doos, Sea-doos, and Regional Jet/Global Express planes are built. The students also met with CEOs from Bombardier and participated in seminars offered by distinguished professors from McGill University and l'École des Hautes Études Commerciales.

Professor Martin de Holan teaches at Faculté Saint-Jean and the University of Alberta's School of Business. The professor (front row, 3rd from left) is surrounded by his students in front of the Ski-doo plant in Valcourt, Québec. ◆



STUDENT EXCELLENCE

THE PETER LOUGHEED SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. **Wendy Gall**, a student at the Faculté Saint-Jean, received one of this year's Peter Lougheed Scholarships. The University of Alberta established these scholarships in 1986 as a tribute



Wendy Gall and the Honourable Peter Lougheed

to the Honourable Peter Lougheed, premier of Alberta from 1971 to 1985. Wendy is a fourth-year Honors B.A. student with a major in socio-political sciences.

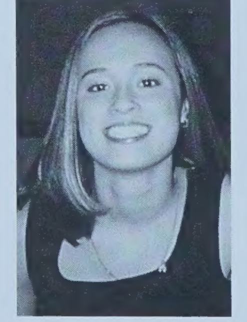
Each year, scholarships are given to U of A students who show leadership while maintaining exemplary academic records. The $10,000 Peter Lougheed Scholarship is one of the most prestigious awards available to undergraduate students.

A most active young woman, Wendy has represented students on various committees at the University of Alberta, namely: the University of Alberta Senate, the General Faculties Council, the Students' Union (External Affairs), and l'Association des universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean. Wendy hopes to secure a posting with the Canadian Foreign Service in Ottawa.

In the past, four other Faculté Saint-Jean students have been recipients of Peter Lougheed Scholarships:**Kathlyn Haugen**, 1988–89; **Randy Boissonnault**, 1990–91; **Sarah-Jean Tingle**, 1992–93; and **Jennifer Blakely**, 1998–99. ◆

UNIVERSIADE '83 SCHOLARSHIP

A fourth-year education student at the Faculté Saint-Jean, **Tabatha Johnston**, was the recipient of a $3,000 Universiade '83 Scholarship for the 2001-2002 academic year. Students Awards remitted 41 such scholarships on December 13, 2001.



Tabatha Johnston

One hundred and forty-two University of Alberta students applied for these scholarships: 77 in athletics, 91 in fine arts, and 14 from combined athletics-fine arts programs.

Tabatha Johnston applied in the category of athletics as a member of the University Women's field-hockey team. Besides excelling in athletics, Tabatha also had an exceptional academic record.◆

ROBERT SPENCE FOUNDATION $200 000 ENDOWMENT FUND

On April 9, 2002, Faculté Saint-Jean (FSJ) hosted two directors of the Robert Spence Foundation - Calgary, **John Moreau** and **Owen Snider**. A small reception was held to thank the

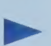


John Moreau, Claudette Tardif, and Owen Snider

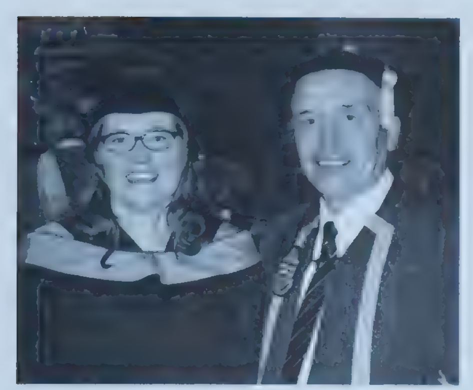
foundation for its generous donation of a $200,000 endowment fund. This fund will allow Faculté Saint-Jean to offer scholarships of $2,500 to students whose limited financial means would preclude their pursuing postsecondary studies in French. The foundation directors met with former bursary recipients.

The Robert Spence Foundation was established by Mrs. Annette Spence, from Calgary, in honour of her deceased husband. Dean **Claudette Tardif** stated that this endowment fund will make it possible for students from all over the province to attend the Faculté, as they contend with rising tuition fees, accommodation costs, and daily living expenses that might prevent them from pursuing postsecondary studies in French.

According to **Laura Thompson**, a teacher at Maurice-Lavallée School, "The Robert Spence Scholarship enabled me to fulfill a dream, as I was able to study abroad, in France, during

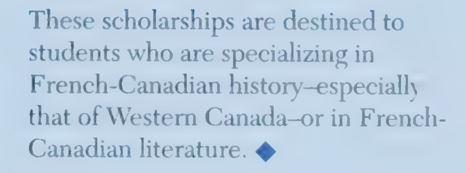


STUDENT EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS *(continued)*



Laura Thompson and Rod Fraser, Dean of the University of Alberta

my Master's studies [M.Ed., 2001]. I chose to study at Faculté Saint-Jean because it is a small faculty within a large university (University of Alberta) renowned for its education program. I come from Sudbury (ON), and it was important to me to be able to pursue my master's studies in a Francophone institution outside Quebec."◆



These scholarships are destined to students who are specializing in French-Canadian history–especially that of Western Canada–or in French-Canadian literature. ◆

DUBUC SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Lucien Dubuc Scholarship** is a result of a $300,000 bequest Faculté Saint-Jean received in 2000 from **André Dubuc**, former registrar at the Court House in Edmonton, in memory of his father, the late **Lucien Dubuc**, Chief Judge of the Regional Court of Northern Alberta.

This year, four Faculté students received a $2,000 scholarship from the **Lucien-Dubuc Fund**:

Philippe Bresse, from Edmonton (AB)–3rd year B.A.;

Lisa Brockley, from Cold Stream (B.C.)–3rd year B. Ed.;

Sonia Croteau, from Cap de la Madeleine (QC)–3rd year B.A.;

Marie-Claude Villemure, from Trois-Rivières (QC)–4th year B.A.

Philippe Bresse



Lisa Brockley



Sonia Croteau



Marie-Claude Villemure

FERNANDO-GIRARD FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Three of the Faculté's Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce Program students received $1,000 scholarships



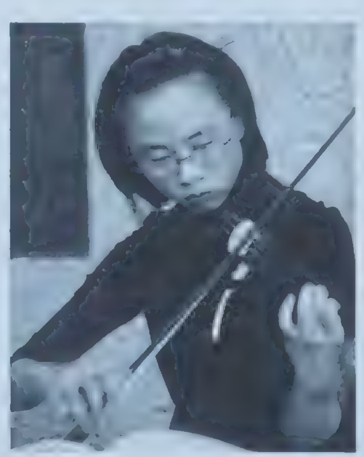
Jennifer Raczynski

this year from the Fernando-Girard Foundation to help further their studies: **Jennifer Raczynski, France Veilleux**, and **Victoria Yeh**. The foundation awards scholarships to students who have an excellent academic record in business, and



France Veilleux

who have shown leadership in extracurricular or community activities. This foundation was set up in honour of Fernando Girard, who established the Caisses Populaires in Alberta, now part of the Credit Unions of Alberta. ◆



Victoria Yeh

POLITICS AND MEDICINE: TWO YOUNG WOMEN EYE THE FUTURE

LISA MARIE CLYBURN

"I'M GOING TO BE PRIME MINISTER SOMEDAY"

Lisa Marie Clyburn speaks with the authority of a young woman who knows where she is going. This third-year Faculté Saint-Jean student is already politically active on campus. As vice-president responsible for external affairs on the executive of l'Association des universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean (AUFSJ) [Association of University Students at Faculté Saint-Jean], Lisa automatically represents Faculté students on the University of Alberta's Student Council and the General Faculties Council. "I'm going to be Prime Minister someday", she states with determination.


Lisa Marie Clyburn

Lisa means business! In the year 2000, she participated in the bilingual Millenium Conference held in Ottawa. Young people between the ages of 18 and 24 took part in this gathering and received training so that they might return to their communities ready to establish youth programs at the municipal level. She was then instrumental in setting up the first Youth Day in Edmonton (2001) as she sat on the City of Edmonton's Youth Council. The aim of these activities was twofold: firstly, to make the population at large aware of the deeds that young people perform, and secondly, to make young people aware that they must assume responsibility for their own lives. Ever conscious of the need to empower young people, Lisa Clyburn is guider-in-charge for Girl Guides of Canada in Edmonton.

A devotee of hiking and camping, Lisa leads a group of Pathfinders, young women between the ages of 12 and 15, in various outdoor activities.

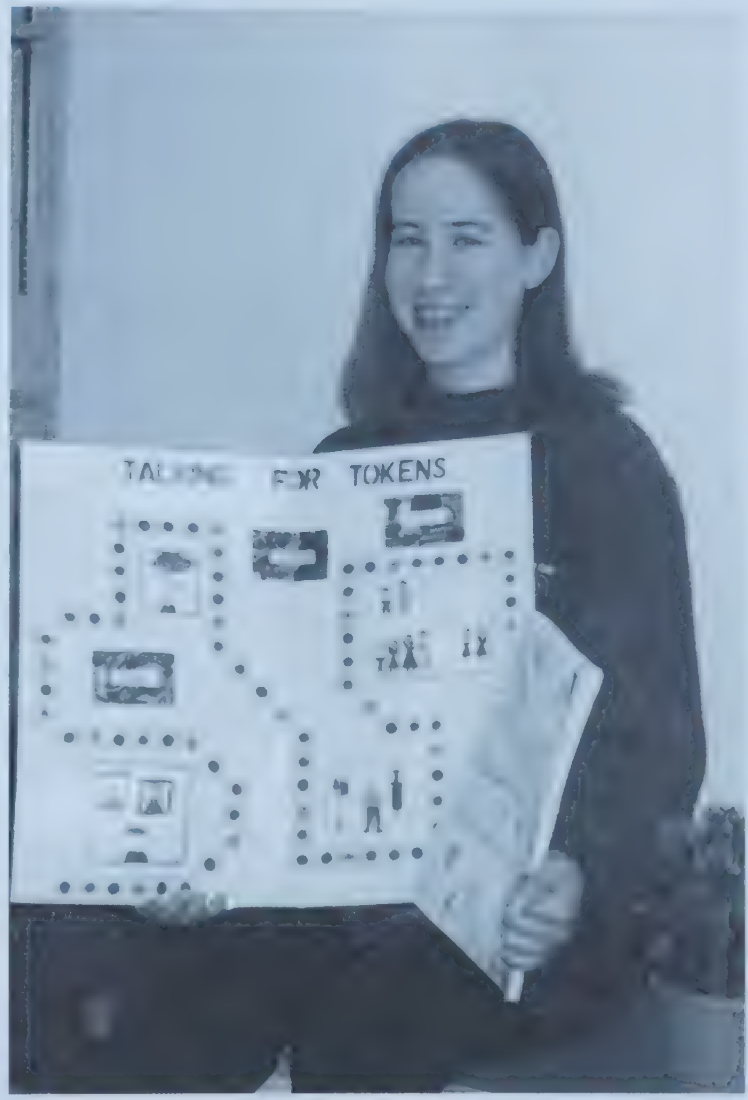
A third-year student in the Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce Program, Lisa takes half of her courses at the Faculté, and the other half, with the School of Business. This year, she is on an eight-month practicum at Alberta Women's Enterprise Initiative Association (AWEIA), a non-profit organization funded by the Federal Government. The association offers business loans with a flexible repayment plan to women establishing small businesses in Alberta. Lisa's role is to help budding women entrepreneurs develop critical thinking skills.

Lisa has spoken French and English since she was a child–her mother, of Acadian descent from Bathurst (NB), speaks French, while her father, who is from Alberta, speaks English. Both are very supportive of their daughter's bilingual studies. During the summer of 2000, Lisa participated in the French Immersion Bursary Program at Chicoutimi (QC) to help maintain her French proficiency. ◆

PAMELA FINNIE
DETERMINED TO HELP OTHERS FIGHT CANCER

April 14, 2002, is a memorable date for **Pamela Finnie**, for that is when the first-year Faculté Saint-Jean student was declared cancer-free by her doctors – five years after receiving her last cancer treatment at age 13 for lymphoblastic leukemia, the most common form of childhood cancer.

Pamela Finnie is a survivor determined to make a difference in the lives of other young people fighting the same battles she has fought. Every week, she does five to ten hours of volunteer work. She sits on the executive of Candlelighters Canada, an organization that provides support to children suffering from cancer and to their families. She is also the provincial director of an Alberta support group for teens living with cancer. This courageous young woman has raised more than $16,000 for the Terry Fox Run in support of cancer research; her valiant efforts have garnered her a Terry Fox Humanitarian Award. "Terry Fox is my hero. For a cause this important, I get over my shyness and drag my pledge book everywhere. I even talk to people on the street and ask them for pledges."



Pamela Finnie

The Montreal native moved to Golden (B.C.) with her family when she was three years old. Ten years later, cancer struck. In order to cope with her ordeal, and to express her daily challenges, she wrote a book *My Life with Leukemia*. She now had somewhere to vent her feelings, to state her determination to beat the cancer, and to celebrate her small victories. The book also afforded Pamela a means of communicating with her family and friends. The young crusader has found that other cancer-stricken children, once they have read *My Life with Leukemia*, are now following her example and writing their own cancer stories. She has gone a step further in creating *Talking for Tokens*, a board game she uses when making presentations to adults about cancer amongst children or when speaking directly to children who have recently been diagnosed with cancer. "Children have a tendency to keep everything inside, and they become depressed. *Talking for Tokens* is a game–people like to play games and are more inclined to talk openly afterwards." One of Pamela's dreams? To find a publisher for her book and her board game.

Pamela is accustomed to rising to the occasion. A former French teacher, **Leslie Savage**, a Faculté Saint-Jean graduate [1994], piqued her interest for French. "She was my favourite teacher and she often spoke of the Faculté Saint-Jean. I had her from Grade 8 to Grade 10. Then the recruiting agents came to visit us quite a few times in Golden. I love it at the Fac, the residence… You can live in an English-speaking city in a completely French environment. It really helps me develop my listening and speaking skills."

Next year, Pamela Finnie will embark on another important life-journey: she will register in pharmacology at the University of Alberta, and eventually in medicine, as she wants to become a paediatric oncologist. She will also take some courses in French at the Faculté Saint-Jean to maintain her French skills. ◆

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL ROMÉO DALLAIRE AT FSJ

There was standing room only at the Centre Saint-Jean on March 25, 2002, as students, professors and members of the community turned out for a conference by retired Lieutenant-General **Roméo Dallaire**. The guest speaker's demeanor and his eloquent comments captivated the audience.

'Are all humans *human*, or are there certain humans who are more *human* than others?' The retired Lt-Gen left no doubt as to his beliefs: all humans are equal.

The General used his experience as Commandant of the United-Nations Observer Mission–Uganda and Rwanda (UNOMUR) and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) to promote awareness amongst the audience of the back-ground to the current world situation.

According to the guest speaker, a series of revolutions in the nineties shaped the times we now live in: the pervasive role of electronic technology, the structure of institutions, the strong push toward efficiency at all costs in the management of business dealings and conflicts on an international scale–as in Rwanda, an extreme case.

No one was left unmoved as General Dallaire spoke of children and women being used in de-mining operations and as shields in conflicts. It was a call to arms against cynicism that the retired military man raised at Faculté Saint-Jean. He appealed to everyone's humanitarian instincts, to their sense of justice, and to the application of ethics in international relations and in the resolution of conflicts. The audience gave a standing ovation to this man who has the courage of his convictions.

Amongst the many honours bestowed upon General Dallaire are the Meritorious Service Cross and The Vimy Award. Knowing first-hand the effects of post-traumatic stress, General Dallaire is now raising awareness in the Armed Forces to the needs of military personnel and their families after combat missions abroad. He is currently Advisor to the Minister of the Canadian International Development Agency on matters relating to war-affected children around the world. The General believes that it is the women and children who will be the instruments of reconciliation and progress. ◆



Retired Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire receives a standing ovation at Centre Saint-Jean

NATHALIE UWANTEGE
A SURVIVOR IN ACTION

Reflecting upon her luncheon meeting with retired General Roméo Dallaire in Edmonton on March 25th, 2002, **Nathalie Uwantege** says: "He loves the Rwandan people more than the Rwandan people love themselves. He even wants to live out his old age in Rwanda; he has my heartfelt and unconditional respect. To the people in Rwanda, he is a hero!"

Nathalie arrived in Ottawa in April of 1994 from Burundi after having fled her native Rwanda. Her first language is French, and she is a second-year education student at the Faculté Saint-Jean. Even though she has moved on past the 100-day genocide in her country to rebuild a life for herself in Canada with her son and her daughter, Nathalie does not want to forget her country or her roots. It is for this reason she has created *Rafiki* (friends of Rwanda) with the help of other Canadians of Rwandan descent in Edmonton. The organization puts on pot-luck picnics in city parks so that the children who have a common background can play together while the adults pursue their healing in conversation with one another. Nathalie also teaches the children the traditional dances of Rwanda.

Nathalie has vowed that what happened in Rwanda in 1994 must never happen again. It was so horrible that she cannot speak out loud of the horrors she witnessed. "Much healing has gone on within the *Rafiki* membership. [...] I have been fortunate enough to have a compassionate country like Canada welcome me with open arms, and I want to do something to create a better world. A commemorative ceremony was held on April 6, 2002, at Faculté Saint-Jean. The grieving that still goes on amongst the Rwandan community was



Nathalie Uwantege

acknowledged, but the event was also held to signal our desire to build a future nourished by our hope of being able to foster a better world–a world where multiculturalism as found in Canada can flourish."

One day, Nathalie Uwantege hopes to be able to return to Rwanda to spend a year on a sabbatical helping native teachers build a more understanding Rwanda, one where Rwandans of all descent can live together in harmony. The future teacher knows it will be an uphill battle against poverty and ignorance, but states: "If we want the peoples of the world to live as we do here in Canada, we must help those who are elsewhere [Rwanda] and give them our best." A group of Rwandan women–widows and victims of rape during the genocide, and who are now HIV positive–have set up an orphanage in Kigali, where they look after children who have lost their parents to the slaughter. The *Benishyaka* Association or 'women of courage' have also created a rudimentary health clinic and an elementary school so the orphans can live and study together. It is these women, who have witnessed humanity at its worst and yet work at creating a better world with extremely limited means, who have inspired Nathalie. ◆

IDENTITÉS INTERNATIONALES

This summer, **Centre Saint-Jean** will host approximately 40 panelists participating in a bilingual conference focusing on ***International Identities in the New World***. The event, organized jointly by Faculté Saint-Jean and the Faculty of Arts and Native Studies of the University of Alberta, and the University of Calgary, will run from August 25 to August 30, 2002.

Professors **Claude Couture** and **Claude Denis**, co-organizers from Faculté Saint-Jean, expect that the delegates will discuss issues related to serious international questions with the panelists, many of whom will come from Alberta universities.

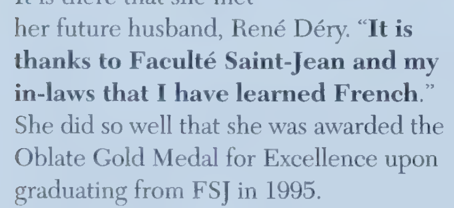
Faculté Saint-Jean wishes to thank the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, whose financial support was a key enabler of this conference.

FORMER STUDENTS NOW ON STAFF

CARMEN BALDWIN-DÉRY

PASSIONATE ABOUT FRENCH AND FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN

Nothing in **Carmen Baldwin**'s background in high school indicated that she would pursue studies in French or that she would speak that language fluently. When she began her postsecondary education at the University of Alberta, her French studies comprised French 10, 20, and 30. Her family spoke English. Registered in a B.A. program in French language and literature, Carmen opted for a very real switch to French in her second year and transferred to the Faculté Saint-Jean. It is there that she met her future husband, René Déry. "**It is thanks to Faculté Saint-Jean and my in-laws that I have learned French**." She did so well that she was awarded the Oblate Gold Medal for Excellence upon graduating from FSJ in 1995.





Carmen Baldwin-Déry

Carmen Baldwin-Déry, new Director of Academic Affairs at FSJ, believes that "**Faculté Saint-Jean is an institution that leaves an indelible mark on a person's life; it is a very positive experience, one that initiates us to a new way of thinking, of seeing things**."

Clément and **Angèle Déry** head the family Carmen has joined; over the years, both of them have worked extensively in Catholic pastoral activities and in teaching within the Francophone community of Edmonton. Clément Déry did his B.A. studies at Collège Saint-Jean when that institution was affiliated to the Université d'Ottawa, from which he obtained his degree Angèle Déry completed her studies in Education at Collège Saint-Jean during the sixties.

The Dérys have three sons, all graduates of Saint-Jean : **René**, in sciences, in 1993; **Roger** and **Ronald**, in education, in 1996 and 1997 respectively. René does research on asthma for the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Alberta; Roger teaches in French immersion at J.H. Picard High School (Edmonton) and Ronald, at Maurice-Lavallée, a Francophone school, also in Edmonton.

It is interesting to note that Roger and Ronald have also married Faculté graduates; namely, **Daisy Witherell** [1996, B. Ed.] and **Karin Forton** [1996, B. Ed.]. Karin, originally from Quebec, grew up in French in Beaumont (AB), while Daisy, whose family is English-speaking, learned French in French-immersion schools in Alberta and the Northwest Territories. Through the links of marriage, the three sisters-in-law from FSJ have become better acquainted. A third Déry generation is now raising its children in French in Alberta!

FRED KREINER AND DENIS FONTAINE

SHARED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Two former Faculté Saint-Jean education graduates, **Fred Kreiner** [1985] and **Denis Fontaine** [1992] are respectively Director and Practicum Associate of the Bureau de la pratique de l'enseignement (Student Teaching) at Faculté Saint-Jean since the beginning of the 2001-2002 academic year.

"Besides teaching, I've got six years of school administration under my belt. My posting as Director of Student Teaching enables me to once again walk in the shoes of teachers. **When I return to school administration, I will be a colleague to the teachers under my supervision, rather than their 'boss'. The collegiality that is prevalent here with my former university professors–they always hold us in high esteem–has made me understand the importance of this friendly atmosphere.** This is indeed a very happy reunion."–Fred Kreiner



Fred Kreiner shares his Bavarian heritage with grade 1 students at École Notre-Dame in Edmonton

"It is very stimulating to be back at the Faculté. This administrative posting represents the very best of professional development. It is enriching to see student teachers evolving during their courses and practice teaching. I know



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A UNIQUE CEREMONY

Faculté Saint-Jean has a unique way of recognizing its graduates. Over the past five years, Faculté graduates have participated in a candle-lighting ceremony steeped in meaning. This year was no exception. On April 27, 2002, the Faculté auditorium was filled to capacity as families and friends of the graduates celebrated their loved ones' accomplishments. Professor **Florence Gobeil-Dwyer** was master of ceremonies and quoted Saint-Exupéry to describe how the participants had "dressed up their hearts" for the occasion.

In Dean Claudette Tardif's words: "The lighting of the candle and the signing of the Faculté Saint-Jean registry symbolize the mental enlightenment which knowledge brings and the illumination of your professional and personal journey; and your signature signifies your membership in the



John Boeglin, Dennis Gignac, Randy Boissonault, Carole Byrne, Claudette Tardif, and Florence Gobeil-Dwyer

community of Saint-Jean. A country is its people, and **I firmly believe that the graduates of Faculté Saint-Jean have a real understanding and appreciation of the important cultural and social values that hold this country together**. In today's era of globalization and internationalization, it has never been so important to be able to use more than one language."

Guest speaker was Rhodes Scholar **Randy Boissonnault**, a 1994 graduate in Canadian Studies at FSJ, and a founding partner of Xennex Venture Catalysts Inc. He offered five guiding principles and four recommendations to the graduates: " Keep your ability to laugh at yourself; cultivate creative thinking; define your principles, and write them down; be open to the world, and build your communities… Lie down and count your blessings every day, drink a toast to your country more



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Former Faculté Students…

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that I will be even more effective upon returning to teaching. […] **It feels really good to be able to use the practical experience I have acquired over the years, but also to be able to give back to others –the students of today–all that I was**



Fred Kreiner and Denis Fontaine

privileged to learn through life at the Faculté Saint-Jean."–Denis Fontaine

Now back at their alma mater, Fred and Denis both enjoy classroom dynamics where students who range in age from 18 to more than 40 share a learning experience and grow together. "The university population at Saint-Jean has changed over the years. Nowadays, there are students from a variety of Canadian provinces, from Europe, Africa, and Asia. For us, the challenge is to be able to *reach* this very diverse cultural student population, the wide range of cultural backgrounds, and very different life experiences–sometimes at completely different ends of the spectrum from one another–as well as the differing personalities of the future teachers in our care."

Fred Kreiner, who is from Whitecourt (Alberta), had but one French immersion session at Jonquière (Québec) before registering for classes at Saint-Jean and coming to live in residence. He firmly believes that "it is thanks to the atmosphere at the Faculté" that he now speaks French fluently. His parents spoke only German upon arriving in Canada; since then, they have spoken English. Another interesting link with the Faculté–it is at FSJ that Fred met his future wife, **Hélène Gendron**, an



Denis Fontaine with some of his students and an elementary class from École Gabrielle Roy in Edmonton

education graduate in 1987. "Our children consider themselves Francophone, and go to a French school."

Denis Fontaine, who is from Abitibi (Quebec), came to Alberta to study, play hockey, and perfect his English.



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A Unique Ceremony…
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often, steal some time from a busy schedule for those you love, and swear to do your best to stay in touch."

Valedictorian **Melissa Everitt** stressed the sense of belonging that the Faculté professors have fostered in their students. "We have all learned the same lesson: the importance of the community. **Life at Saint-Jean has taught us to work together for the betterment of all**."

Mrs. **Carole Byrne**, Acting Registrar, brought greetings from the University of Alberta. She used the analogy of doors closing and opening on new possibilities, and wished the graduates "short, well-lit corridors of life" leading directly to their dreams.



Valedictorian Melissa Everitt

Last year, the Faculté began offering works of art to the Bibliothèque Saint-Jean to commemorate its graduates. In 2002, *Panorama d'Edmonton–Edmonton Panorama*, a painting by **Jean Gauthier** (1958-1997) was presented. The former teacher and artist graduated from FSJ in 1987. ◆

Former Faculté Students…
continued from page 15

He has fulfilled his ambitions; moreover, it is in one of Edmonton's schools that he met his future wife, **Nadine Kahanyshyn**, also a teacher, and a graduate of the University of Alberta in 1993. At present, their little girl, Zoryanna (4 months), speaks in a language all her own, but her parents are adamant that when the time is right, they will teach her French, English, and Ukrainian.

During their two-year postings at Faculté Saint-Jean, Fred Kreiner and Denis Fontaine have been seconded from their respective employers, namely the Parkland School Division and the Edmonton Catholic School Board. ◆

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FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN NEWS

This English edition of Faculté Saint-Jean's French newsletter *Nouvelles de Saint-Jean* is published once a year to inform the broader community of the various accomplishments and activities of the Faculté.

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University of Alberta

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FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN NEWS

McCALLA PROFESSORSHIP

Thanks to a McCalla Professorship, Professor **Marc de Montigny** will spend the 2003-2004 academic year pursuing his research interests. He has been teaching at FSJ since 1995.



Marc de Montigny.

"My field of research is mathematical physics, particularly the symmetries of physical theories described by LIE groups and their representations. The present research project involves studying physical applications of Galilean invariance, and the low-velocity limit of the symmetry of Einstein's special relativity. I plan to write a review article that will survey recent developments in non-relativistic physics, that is, systems with velocities much smaller than the speed of light. In particular, we will describe a field theory formalism that is borrowed from relativistic physics and makes use of five dimensions. We

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IN THIS ISSUE

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Donald Ipperciel, professor of philosophy at Faculté Saint-Jean, has been awarded a prestigious Canada Research Chair in Political Philosophy and Canadian Studies - Tier II.



Donald Ipperciel.

The Government of Canada established the Canada Research Chairs Program in 2000. Its key objective is to enable Canadian universities, together with their affiliated research institutes and hospitals, to achieve the highest levels of research excellence to become world-class research centres in the global, knowledge-based economy. The Program was provided with $900 million to support the establishment of 2 000 Canada Research Chairs positions at universities across the country by 2005.

Dr. Ipperciel's research involves the study and analysis of nationalist structures in Canada and the development of a novel theoretical framework for Canadian nationalism. The philosopher's project is important as it will increase understanding of Canadian history from both English and French-speaking perspectives and their relationship with First Nations and other 'multicultural' groups. His overriding objective is to articulate a coherent multinational conception of Canada.

"Through my research, I want to show that nationalism, rather than being a barrier to democracy and universal rights, makes it possible for both of these to exist. I will draw upon the theory of Jürgen Habermas, a German philosopher, to develop a new theoretical framework. I will insist on the relation between the universality of human rights and the contemporary world, having to deal with globalization and multiculturalism."

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to present the yearly English edition of our newsletter *Nouvelles de Saint-Jean*. The people and events that are presented in this summary edition provide highlights of the activities of our faculty, students and staff during the 2002-2003 academic year.

Numerous activities and events marked a very productive year for staff and students. In terms of research, we were delighted to hear in November 2002 that Dr. Donald Ipperciel had obtained a prestigious **Canada Research Chair in Political Philosophy and Canadian Studies**. In addition, Dr. Marc de Montigny is the recipient of a **McCalla Professorship** for 2003-04 for the excellence of his research in the area of theoretical physics. In the field of mathematics, Dr. Hassan Safouhi received a three-year research grant from the **National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada**. In the social sciences, Dr. Edmund Aunger, professor of political science, is part of a collaborative team to receive funding from the **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada** for a major three-year research grant. In recognition of her work in the promotion of the French language and culture in North America, and within the Francophone community, Dr. France Levasseur-Ouimet was recently awarded the **Ordre des francophones d'Amérique** from the *Conseil supérieur de la langue française*.


Claudette Tardif.

OUR VISION

That the Faculté Saint-Jean be recognized as the institution of choice for French-language university education by Francophone and Francophile students in Western Canada and beyond.

OUR MISSION

Faculté Saint-Jean's *raison d'être* is to provide, through teaching and research activities, a quality university education in the French language. Established to meet the educational needs of Francophones, Faculté Saint-Jean welcomes everyone who wishes to pursue post-secondary studies in a French-speaking milieu.

Students continue to be at the heart of the Faculté's activities. More than 180 scholarships and awards were given to Faculté students in a ceremony held at the Faculté in the fall. In its third year of operation, the orientation weekend for all new students at Camp He-Ho-Ha was another major success. Many of our students participated in the University's sports and athletic teams, and our female hockey team won the university women's intramurals for the year. A new initiative sponsored by the Faculté Saint-Jean student association (AUFSJ) was a *sugarfest* (*La Cabane à Sucre*) held in March in the University's "Quad area" to celebrate the *Semaine de la Francophonie*. This was great fun for all students and provided a wonderful opportunity for the Faculté to be more present on campus.

Once again, student enrolment was up and the Faculté's programs continue to draw students from across Canada as well as internationally. The first recipient of the **Alberta-Ukraine Scholarship**, established by Premier Klein on his mission to the Ukraine in 2002, chose to attend the Faculté Saint-Jean for this academic year. Our first graduates of the Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce, including those in the Co-op program, received their degrees this spring. The new Master of Arts in Études canadiennes begins in September 2003 with a cohort of five students.

We continue to enhance and build connections with our communities. The Faculté was the hub of numerous professional and community activities throughout the year. The **Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Études canadiennes/Canadian Studies** kicked off the season with a conference by the Right Honorable Beverley McLachlin, Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice. In addition, the Faculté's *Centre en études canadiennes* launched a series of six *Cafés en études canadiennes* on a number of topics of general interest. It also hosted an international summer seminar in Canadian Studies - with representatives from 14 countries in attendance. As well, several of our education professors were involved in the organization of the Seventh National Institute of the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers held at the Faculté in the summer session.

Last year, during l'**Amicale Saint-Jean's** (**Alumni**) annual dinner, Faculté Saint-Jean unveiled panels (pictures and biographies) of the first four recipients of its newly created *Prix de reconnaissance Saint-Jean*. These honour the accomplishments of our alumni. The recipients of the *Prix d'honneur* for 2002 (Long-term Recognition Award) were prominent


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INAUGURATION OF THE CLAUDETTE TARDIF SCHOLARSHIP
– LEADERSHIP AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE –



Hervé Durocher, President of the Comité consultatif (Advisory Council) of FSJ; Claudette Tardif, Dean; Frank McMahon, first Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean; and Gene Zwozdesky, Alberta Community Development Minister.

More than three hundred guests attended a tribute dinner in honour of Dean **Claudette Tardif** on May 28, 2003, at Edmonton's Chateau Lacombe-Crowne Plaza. Dr. Tardif has been Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean since 1995.

The Honourable Lois Hole, Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, brought greetings from the Government of Alberta. In her presentation, she expressed the wish that all children in Alberta have the opportunity to become fluent in both of Canada's official languages. She was roundly applauded by the appreciative audience.

Guest speaker, statesman **Claude Ryan**, was unable to attend for health reasons. In his absence, Dr. Frank McMahon read his speech; the following is an excerpt of Dr. Ryan's speech:

"To you, friends and supporters of Claudette Tardif and the Faculté Saint-Jean, and in particular to the authorities of the University of Alberta and to the Government of Alberta, I express my sincere appreciation for the support the Francophones of this province have received from you in the past decade not only for the Faculté Saint-Jean but also in connection with their broader cultural needs, especially as regards primary and secondary education. By supporting the Faculté Saint-Jean and French language education, you are making a most worthwhile contribution to the re-affirmation and consolidation of a Canada open to people of all cultural backgrounds but firmly founded upon the historical and constitutional pre-eminence of its two official languages. For those who favour a Canada jealous of its unity but proud of its cultural diversity and of its linguistic duality, the existence within the University of Alberta of the Faculté Saint-Jean and the genuine recognition and support it enjoys


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DEAN'S MESSAGE
continued from page 2...

lawyer and community supporter Louis Desrochers, Madame Justice Mary T. Moreau, Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta, and retired professor Reverend Thomas Bilodeau, o.m.i. Karen Unland, journalist at *The Edmonton Journal*, received the *Prix avenir prometteur* (Promising Future Award). A Donor Wall was also created in the magnificent reception foyer of Centre Saint-Jean so as to recognize the generous supporters of Faculté Saint-Jean.

All in all, this has been another exciting year for the Faculté Saint-Jean. It is therefore with a sense of satisfaction and pride that I complete my term as Dean of the Faculté. These eight years as Dean have been very special! I leave my position with many memories of projects accomplished, of new programs established, of partnerships realized, but especially of the many wonderful people whom I have had the privilege of working with. Thanks to the support and help of my colleagues at the University, the provincial and federal governments, the Francophone community, and the broader community, the Faculté has achieved many of its goals. I thank you most sincerely for your show of confidence and your support. It has been my privilege and honour to serve as Dean of the Faculté Saint-Jean and to work to advance the goals of the University. ◆

ORDRE DES FRANCOPHONES D'AMÉRIQUE

"IT IS EACH MORNING THAT WE RESTATE OUR BELONGINGNESS."

On May 30, 2003, Faculté Saint-Jean and l'Antenne du Québec à Vancouver (the Québec Government's office in Vancouver) hosted more than 80 guests to a reception in honour of Dr. **Levasseur-Ouimet** at Centre Saint-Jean. At that time, Mrs. Brédimas-Assimopoulos presented the medal to Professor Levasseur-Ouimet for a second time, in her community. Dr. France Levasseur-Ouimet first received the *Ordre des francophones d'Amérique* on March 19, 2003, during a ceremony held at Québec's Assemblée Nationale (Parliament). This honour is bestowed each year in recognition of the efforts of individuals who have given of themselves tirelessly in order to promote the French language and culture in North America.

The Conseil de la langue française, which has since become the Conseil supérieur de la langue française, instituted l'*Ordre des francophones d'Amérique* as well as the *Prix du 3-juillet-1608* on July 3, 1978. ◆



From left to right: Dean Claudette Tardif, Jean-Louis Hérivault (Québec Representative in Western Canada); France Levasseur-Ouimet (recipient of l'OFA); and Nadia Brédimas-Assimopoulos (President, Le Conseil supérieur de la langue française).

Canada Research Chair In Political Philosophy

continued from page 1...

Dr. Ipperciel is a specialist on the works of scholars, Habermas and Gadamer. Founder and past editor of Symposium, a scholarly international journal specializing in continental philosophy, he is frequently invited to present papers at conferences worldwide.

Professor Ipperciel arrived at the Faculté Saint-Jean in the fall of 1996, shortly after receiving a Doctorate in Philosophy from Ruprecht-Karls-Universität in Heidelberg, Germany. He specializes in hermeneutics, the branch of knowledge that deals with interpretation and theories of interpretation. Professor Ipperciel has pursued studies in various domains, namely literature, philosophy, and languages.

Born in Toronto, Donald Ipperciel has also lived in North Bay, Ontario, and in Québec before coming to Edmonton.◆

Faculté Saint-Jean's Conseil consultatif (Advisory Council) held a reception November 15, 2002, in honour of Dr. Ipperciel.



*From left to right : **Adriana Bugyiovà**, Donald Ipperciel's wife, **Garth Edwards**, Canada Research Chair Coordinator at the University of Alberta, Dr. **Ipperciel**, and Dean **Claudette Tardif** of FSJ.*

ANTHONY FLEMMING-BLAKE

" I LOVE TEACHING LANGUAGES.
I UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES OF STUDYING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE. "

Anthony Flemming-Blake has been teaching English for twenty years at Faculté Saint-Jean. He has even taught evening classes in Gaelic. The fact that he has often had to learn new languages on the spot in foreign countries, over a varied and very interesting career, enables him to fully understand the challenges that Francophones face in mastering English.

After completing doctoral studies in mediaeval English at the University of Alberta, Doctor Flemming-Blake spent a year teaching in Finland (1984-1985). " I was under surveillance during my whole stay there - foreigners are viewed with extreme suspicion. " Because of his determination and will to communicate directly with the Finns in their own language, the professor was able to learn Finnish in record time.

Languages hold no secret for 'Tony', as the professor likes to be called by his friends and colleagues. He spent part of his youth in South Africa and India, his father having served there as a doctor in the British Army. That is where Tony learned Hindi and Bengali. Upon arriving in Great Britain at the age of 12 with his parents, he studied Spanish, German, and Esperanto at school.

As a young man, the linguist served with the British Royal Air Force as an interpreter of Russian to decode secret messages. He spent 18 months in Iraq, where he monitored Russian defence systems; this was before the use of satellites and was dangerous work.

In order to impart not only the language but also the way of thinking of people living in foreign lands to his students, the professor builds his courses around selections from the masters of English literature. In one of his courses, he deals with the role of women in society over the course of the last two centuries in order to show his students how people dealt with the double standard at that time.



Anthony Flemming-Blake.

"We live in a cocoon in North America. I often tell my students that they do not realize how lucky they are to live here. When I was in Iraq, there was a twelve-year-old boy who helped clean the shoes of the British military. He would arrive for work at 6 am wearing nothing but rags, and work through the day until 4 o'clock. He attended school from 6 to 8 p.m.: we taught him English... Poverty, as described by Charles Dickens in his books, really does exist in the world...When I was a child in India, I saw people die of hunger in the streets, and was unable to do anything for them. "

Professor Flemming-Blake loves to travel, and visited Europe with his parents many times during his youth; that is where he learned to speak French. Nowadays, he prefers more remote areas such as Montserrat and Belize. The professor also loves to write, and favours the short story as his mode of expression. He is presently working on a compilation of twelve short stories on people who don't quite fit into society, and who cross his path. The writer examines the way they move about, what they say, how they behave, etc.; and the characters in his short stories will undoubtedly reflect some of these features and behaviours - in short, daily life inspires him. ◆

CONGRATULATIONS!

First Co-Op cohort to graduate from the Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce

Enrolment has continually increased since the inception of the Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce program at Faculté Saint-Jean in 1998. Congratulations to our graduates:

Chasity Beausoleil, Nathalie Boutin, Cory Harding, Jeffrey Fetterly, Jeffrey Johnson, Tiara Kanester, Jennifer Raczynski, Robin Wallsten, Landon White, Victoria Yeh, and **Bonnie Yu.**

ALBERTA-UKRAINE SCHOLARSHIP

In order to commemorate Ukraine's ten years of independence, Alberta **Premier Ralph Klein** and **Community Development Minister Gene Zwozdesky** participated in a trade mission to Kiev, capital of the Ukraine, from May 18 to 23, 2002. It was during this historic trip that Premier Klein announced the creation of a new $150 000 educational fund for the Ukraine. According to this agreement, Alberta will offer $30 000 a year over a five-year period in order to help Ukrainian students study at one of Alberta's universities or in one of its other post-secondary institutions.

Daria Koucherets, from Kiev, received the first Alberta-Ukraine Special Recognition Award, a scholarship worth $10 000. Her academic record, as well as her research, made her stand out from the numerous other candidates applying to study abroad. Daria chose to study at Faculté Saint-Jean, the French faculty of the University of Alberta, to complete her undergraduate degree in economy, as she wanted to study in French as well as learn English. The young woman, who already speaks Ukrainian and Russian, has been studying French in the Ukraine since Grade 7.



Alberta Community Development Minister Gene Zwozdesky and Faculté Saint-Jean Dean Claudette Tardif stand on either side of Daria at the Alberta Legislature in Edmonton at a meeting held January 22, 2003.

Besides taking courses at the Faculté, Daria Koucherets also had to write final exams at the University of International Relations in Kiev, where she hopes to obtain a B.A. with a major in international commerce.

"My first week in Edmonton was quite difficult since I knew only a few English words, but the Dean's office at Faculté Saint-Jean was most helpful, and I was able to register in economy, history and English classes."

What has motivated her to study abroad? "Nowadays, the ability to speak many foreign languages is an important asset when trying to find a job... It is important to know the economic structure of other countries. Canada's high standard of living also attracted me... My only fear was not having enough to do here, as in the Ukraine I was studying and working as well as being very active in sports. I soon found out that there were a number of extracurricular activities I could participate in at Faculté Saint-Jean. I have found a tennis partner; now, all that is left to do is to ski in the Rockies. "

What does the future hold for Daria? She wants to return to Kiev to work and to pursue graduate studies at Kiev's Academy of Diplomacy. Eventually, Daria would like to work in the field of foreign affairs.

Daria Koucherets' parents live in Kiev, where her father is President of an Association whose aim is to foster the development of the Ukrainian population. Her mother works in public relations. Daria has an older sister who is an engineer in Seattle (U.S.A.).◆

Inauguration of the Claudette Tardif Scholarship

continued from page 3...

demonstrate that by sincerely working together in a spirit of positive acceptance and mutual respect, we can help make the Canadian dream an ever growing reality."

During the dinner, Alberta Community Development Minister **Gene Zwozdesky** announced that the Province of Alberta was donating $ 20 000 to the Claudette Tardif Scholarship in recognition of the outstanding contribution made by Dean Tardif to education, and particularly to education in French at Faculté Saint-Jean during her eight-year tenure. Other donors and the dinner guests also contributed to the scholarship.

Each guest was presented with a commemorative booklet of Dr. Tardif's deanship, containing highlights of her years of dedication to Faculté Saint-Jean and to the community at large. Dean Tardif embarks on a 12-month administrative leave as of July 1, 2003.◆

PAULETTE DUBÉ

Paulette Dubé [B.A, FSJ-1984] is a teacher by trade, but writing, for her, is like breathing - essential. She is a Franco-Albertan, born in Westlock, Alberta, and grew up in the Francophone community of Legal, 50 kilometres north of Edmonton.

« *Pour faire une tresse - assemblez trois longues mèches de cheveux ;/ une pour l'âme/ une pour la raison/et une pour l'action.* » Thus begins *Talon*, her first novel (288 p.) published by NeWest Press of Edmonton in 2002. It is written mostly in English, but carries the sounds of the Gaspé area from which her husband's ancestors hail, as well as her own who left France to settle in Montana before immigrating to Alberta at the turn of the twentieth century. They settled there on homesteads that they had to clear, sow and harvest, on top of building a house on the land, all of that within a three-year period in order to become titled owners. Nature in the wild was part of their daily lives, and they got to know it intimately; Paulette also. It is where her memory lies in waiting.



Paulette Dubé.

Paulette's novel covers nearly a hundred years, namely from 1873 to 1962, during which she introduces the reader to three generations of women larger than life itself, living as one with a landscape of breathtaking beauty. However, the women are not spared its flip side of challenges: heat, mosquitoes, rocky soil and frigid winters. They must also deal with isolation, illnesses, and infant mortality. Most of these folk simply want to create a better life for themselves and their families on their own land, but there are a few who are intent on making life miserable for the others. Some subject their families to a reign of terror - a brutality that will inevitably be transmitted from one generation to the next and which the women will work tirelessly to eradicate. These women have been given a particular gift - the main character Rubis Caillou Morin is a prime example - which they use to protect their loved ones; this knowledge is transmitted from one generation to the next in a *red* diary.

The author has drawn upon her aunts' memories in order to create mesmerizing characters, her ancestors offering her an unending source of unique traits. What distinguishes them from other Franco-Albertans is the fact that Paulette Dubé hails from a long line of healers. On that subject, she is unequivocal:

[Translation] "Such a gift comes with the responsibility to use it to do good. I wrote this book so that the story of our healers, both men and women, would not get lost. The Church, at the time of my ancestors, opposed the healers. It associated the healers to the Devil in order to frighten people and to solely exercise power over them; the clergy was jealous of the women's power... A healing gift is a gift from God. He works through us to alleviate suffering. In the pioneer days, this was even more important for there were no doctors in all the little villages of North America. "

Paulette uses oral French in certain passages of her book and fiercely defends her right to do so: "It is to ensure that the voice of my village would not be silenced. It is the language of the Franco-Albertans; it is old French, and the pioneers used to speak as it is written in my book - as it sounds." This pride in her origins and the determination of the Franco-Albertans is clearly reflected in the following poetic excerpt taken from page 175 of *Talon*.

" *Let us say this now,*

this is for everyone who speaks our name

as a mouthful of hot spiders

for everyone who told us to go home,

if we dare slather our language between loaves of laughter.

[...]

We are from here.

We are here, this is us.

We are the French-Canada

that lives as jewels in the earth,

We are the French-Canada

that fashions medals to protect the maimed of this earth."

Paulette Dubé has received two major writing awards: the Milton Acorn Memorial Peoples' Poetry Award, in 1994, and the James Patrick Follinsbee Prize in English, in 1983. *Talon* has made the short list of the 2003 Sunburst Award, which recognizes the best in Canadian literature of the fantastic. Winners will be announced in September. ◆

TWO FACULTÉ GRADUATES WORK IN KOREA



Ross O'Connor.

Ross O'Connor [B.A., 1995] has returned to Canada after a six-year stint in South Korea, where he was a sessional instructor teaching French and English at Dongguk University in the capital city of Seoul. He also counseled emigrants, and this brought him into close contact with the Canadian and American embassies. Ross also worked for the Ministry of Education as part of the coordination team for the English as a Second Language Program. He also volunteered with a non-governmental agency - the *Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights* -, which helped out North Korean refugees.

During his stay in Seoul, Ross also worked as a journalist at the *Korea Herald*, set up, and played with, the first international ice-hockey team in Seoul, the *Geckos Glaciers*. He participated in many tournaments in South Korea, in Thailand, and in Malaysia.

Ross was active in the French theater at Faculté Saint-Jean, and pursued his interest in this artistic discipline in Seoul. He acted in a variety of films and advertisements, as well as doing French language voice-overs of promotional videos (Hyundai, Samsung, etc.) broadcast in France.

Ross has returned to Canada to pursue his studies: he will begin a Masters of Arts degree in international relations in the fall at the Institut québécois des hautes études internationales, Université Laval. Ross is fluent in French, English, and Korean. Ultimately, he hopes to work for the United-Nations Organization.◆

Bruce Dawson [B.A., 1994] has been living in Seoul, capital of South Korea, for six years. He manages a public relations firm of forty employees. MasterCard, Allianz, and General Motors are among their clients.

Bruce came to Seoul to work as a private tutor with Korean disc jockeys and journalists. He also tutored Rap groups. Then, he moved on to Dongguk University to teach English. This is where he met up once again with Ross O'Connor, a friend from the Faculté Saint-Jean.

Later on, Bruce found work in his field, economy and political science. He worked for the Ministry of Economics as a liaison officer between the Korean Government, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Following the monetary crisis in Asia, Bruce worked for Motorola Korea as Director of Global Communications in Korea, responsible for Japan, India and the United States. Before moving on to his present occupation, Bruce seized the opportunity offered by the World Soccer Cup of 2002, and became sports writer for the *Korea Herald*.

Bruce participates in many foreign cultural activities in Seoul, one of which is the organization of the Saint-Patrick Parade of March 17, at which more than 5 000 participants were expected. He is also working on establishing a new branch of l'Alliance française in Seoul.◆



Bruce Dawson.

ALUMNI RECOGNITION AWARDS

L'Amicale Saint-Jean (Faculté Saint-Jean's Alumni) instituted its first Alumni Recognition Awards during its annual dinner held on October 5th, 2002, during Reunion Week-End. The 'Prix d'honneur' recognizes the contributions of alumni who have been active in their communities for a number of years and have made significant contributions at municipal, provincial, national and even international levels. The 'Prix avenir prometteur' or 'Promising Future' highlights the accomplishments and potential of more recent graduates.

LOUIS DESROCHERS



Louis Desrochers.

Renowned city lawyer **Louis Desrochers** obtained his first university degree from Collège Saint-Jean in 1947. He then graduated from the University of Alberta's Law School. He was Chancellor of the University of Alberta from 1970 to 1994.

Louis Desrochers has always been active within the Francophone community as well as the broader community. His five children have all studied at Faculté Saint-Jean.

In 1999, Faculté Saint-Jean created the Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Études Canadiennes/Canadian Studies to honour his commitment to Francophone rights and his unfailing support of FSJ.

THOMAS BILODEAU, OMI



Thomas Bilodeau.

Father or 'Padre' Tom as he prefers being called, served 35 years at 'Saint-Jean' as it evolved from Collège Saint-Jean, to Collège universitaire Saint-Jean, and finally, Faculté Saint-Jean. During that time, he taught religious studies, philosophy, and French. He was well loved and respected by all, from students to colleagues. Father Tom graduated from Saint-Jean before entering the Oblates' novitiate in 1949.

Following his retirement in 1994, Father Tom set up informal meetings in cafés around Edmonton in order to bring comfort and solace to those in need.

MARY T. MOREAU



Mary T. Moreau

Mary T. Moreau was named Judge of Alberta's Court of Queen's Bench in 1994. The following year, she was named Deputy Judge of the Yukon Territory Supreme Court. She studied for two years at College Saint-Jean before obtaining her law degree from the University of Alberta in 1979.

In 1992, Mrs. Moreau was a delegate for the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* at the Federal Conference on Constitutional Reform held in Calgary and Vancouver.

KAREN UNLAND



Karen Unland.

Karen Unland is a 1994 Canadian Studies graduate of Faculté Saint-Jean. She was awarded the Médaille d'or des Pères Oblats for academic excellence. The Jasper native followed this up with a Masters in journalism from Carleton University in 1996.

Karen has been a journalist at the *Edmonton Journal* since 1997. In 2001, she became the *Journal*'s assistant editor of local news.

LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES IN CANADIAN STUDIES



Standing, from left to right: Louise Ladouceur, Sherry Simon, Pamela Sing, and Claudette Tardif. Seated, from left to right: Marie Desrochers-Kingston, Louis and Marcelle Desrochers.

This lecture series, inaugurated in 2001, brings world-renowned guest speakers to address Edmonton audiences. Dean **Claudette Tardif** emphasizes the fact that: "These conferences further interdisciplinary teaching and research on Canada as a subject. That is why it is such a pleasure to open them to the public at large."

Two of this year's guest speakers were Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, the Honourable **Beverley McLachlin** (September 24, 2002) and Concordia University Professor **Sherry Simon** (March 27, 2003).

Chief Justice McLachlin's presentation was entitled 'The Role of the Supreme Court of Canada in Maintaining Rights and Freedoms', while Professor Simon's was 'How to translate *métissage* or hybridity: reflections on cultural citizenship'.◆



First row, from left to right: Pierre, Louis and Marcelle Desrochers. Second row, from left to right: Marie Desrochers-Kingston, Claudette Tardif, and Beverley McLachlin.

McCalla Professorship

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will illustrate it with examples from nuclear physics and low-temperature physics: superconductivity, superfluidity and Bose-Einstein condensation, as well as their applications – nuclear magnetic resonance imaging and spectrometry, fast computers, magnetic sensors, measurements with slow atoms, etc."

Professor de Montigny's teaching skills have also been recognized. He was awarded Faculté Saint-Jean's Award for Teaching Excellence in 1996 - 1997, and received Concordia University's teaching award in 1994-1995.

Following completion of his doctoral studies in mathematical physics from Université de Montréal in 1992, Marc de Montigny held a post-doctoral research position at the University of Florida (Institute for Fundamental Theory) from 1992 to 1993, and McGill University (High Energy Theory Group), from 1993 to 1994. He was also a visiting researcher in universities in Canada, the United-States, Europe, and South America.

Research scholars from Canada, the United-States, Spain, the Czech Republic, Brazil, Ukraine, Hungary, and France participate in Professor de Montigny's research. Besides maintaining a heavy teaching load and directing ongoing research, this FSJ professor also sits on many final examinations and candidacy committees, at both Masters and Doctoral levels, at the University of Alberta.

Moreover, he has over thirty refereed publications in scientific journals. Dr. de Montigny will be released from his teaching duties during his McCalla Professorship in order to pursue his research on a full-time basis.

Marc de Montigny received Faculté Saint-Jean's Research Award in 2001-2002 in recognition of his excellent research track record. It is worth noting that he has twice received research grants from the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC-Canada). Marc de Montigny speaks French and English, and plays the saxophone as a hobby.

In the past, three other Faculté Saint-Jean professors have received this prestigious professorship: **Dennis Gignac** (2001-2002), **Claude Couture** (1996-1997), and **Edmund Aunger** (1992-1993).◆

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN STUDENTS ARE ALSO GREAT ATHLETES

KUDOS TO ALL OF THEM!

Several Faculté Saint-Jean students are also part of the University of Alberta's renowned sports teams. They maintain excellent academic records and make valuable contributions to the world of sports. The Faculté is proud to present three of these students.

Hilaire Kamdem is a second-year science student at Faculté Saint Jean. He arrived in Canada in August 2001 from Cameroon in Central Africa. Shortly thereafter, he tried out for the Golden Bears soccer team. He was extremely pleased when head coach, Len Vickery, selected him to play with the University of Alberta's Golden Bears Soccer Team.

"My dedication and commitment to soccer allowed me to develop and perfect my skills. This in turn led me to various opportunities. I was chosen to be a member of the 1998 Cameroon National Team. We played in the Under 17 World Cup, which was hosted in Paris, France. The following year I played with the Under 18 Cameroon National Team. In 2001, I made a decision to attend university, and to further my education at the University of Alberta. "



Hilaire Kamdem.

In Cameroon, soccer is the equivalent of hockey in Canada, and so Hilaire has had to adjust to a different style of soccer and to less fan support in his new country. " I was used to playing in front of millions of spectators who constantly cheered by screaming, singing, and dancing." The transition has now been made, and Hilaire is pleased with his soccer involvement:
" Playing with the Golden Bears is a good experience. I enjoy being part of the team, and I am learning a lot about soccer in Canada. My coaches and teammates have helped me adjust to life in Canada. As a team, we enjoy celebrating after every victory. We have had a successful two years. Our soccer team won the Canada West Conference in 2001 and placed third in the CIAS 2002 playoffs. Our goal for next season is to work harder in order to win the Nationals in Montreal"◆

Erika Ganger's home is in Red Deer, Alberta. She feels fortunate to have been able to play basketball with the Pandas of the University of Alberta. "It has been a very positive experience. I have gained 12 'best friends' who encourage me and have pushed me to become a better athlete."

According to Erika, the benefits of playing on a sports team extend beyond the realm of sports. "I have learnt a lot about hard work, team work, dedication, and sportsmanship - all of which are important skills to have. I have learnt to set goals for sports and school, but more importantly, I have learnt to reach those goals. Most of all, I have had the time of my life, have traveled the country, and have gotten an education, all while doing something I love."◆



Erika Ganger.

Charles Turanich-Noyen is part of the University of Alberta's Golden Bears Swim Team. "I think that there is a certain responsibility associated with any university team, to do one's best and act in a most honorable and respectful manner."

Competitive sports events are a way, other than academic challenges, for universities to make themselves known. "I enjoy the pressure and challenge of always performing to the best of my abilities. Secondly, I think that being on a university team helps me acquire important skills and a discipline that will be with me all my life. In a typical


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CHANTAL CHAUVET – VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE!



Chantal Chauvet.

Chantal Chauvet worked tirelessly as a volunteer for over a year to set up a 'Heart of the City Piano Program' in Edmonton. This program offers music lessons to children attending Edmonton's inner-city schools, namely: Spruce Avenue, Norwood and McCauley schools. Chantal recruited 17 students/musicians who, in turn, volunteered their services as music teachers.

This program was set up in the capital under the direction of **Sandra Woitras** of the Inner-City Project of Edmonton Public Schools. Chantal became aware of this program, established by **Richard Dubé**, while spending a year in Saskatoon (SK).

"Fifty-one students from three elementary schools participate in this program. The children know that they must practise, as there is a long waiting list. Since these students do not have a piano at home, they practise before and after classes, as well as during recess. They wear headphones so that they can practise on donated electric keyboards without disturbing other students in the school. This is particularly important when they get permission to practise during classes."

Chantal received her B.Ed. in elementary immersion from Faculté Saint-Jean at spring convocation 2003. ◆

INTERNATIONAL FLAVOURS



Students from all over the world attend Faculté Saint-Jean. Every year, it is a tradition to share one's cultural heritage at an International Dinner held in the Student's Lounge. The colours, aromas, and textures of dishes as unique and diverse as the countries of origin of the student body and the personnel fill the room with mouth-watering home cuisine. Recipes are exchanged and new tastes are acquired in a relaxed setting that allows everyone to make new friends.

Cultural Animator **Christian Tremblay**, Public Relations Officer **Mona Liles**, and School Liaison Officer **Caroline Thibault** organized this year's International Dinner, held on January 18, 2003. ◆

FACULTÉ *SUGARFEST* IN QUAD

On March 19, 2003, FSJ Students' Association (L'Association des universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean) held its *Cabane à sucre*, or *Sugarfest*, in Quad on the UofA campus. **David Arsenault**, AUFSJ's president, felt that this was a good way to connect with as many other UofA students as possible.

Some UofA students already knew what a Cabane à sucre was because they had studied in French Immersion. For them, it was an occasion to reacquaint themselves with their French studies, as well as get to know some Faculté Saint-Jean students and to practice their French. ◆

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN STUDENTS...
continued from page 11...

week, we swim from 16 to 20 hours. Swimming is a very difficult and challenging sport, but the discipline and health benefits transfer to my studies at the Faculté Saint-Jean."

Charles also derives a lot of pleasure from participating in a university sports team. He thoroughly enjoyed the 2003 Canadian Inter University for Sport Awards Night, where he met quite a few other athletes from the University of Alberta's various sports teams. "I invite all other students to join one of the university's sports teams and hope to be able to meet them in the years to come." ◆



Charles Turanich-Noyen.



Sweet treat!

RENEWAL OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

On March 17, 2003, the Faculté Saint-Jean and l'Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres Midi-Pyrénées (l'IUFM) [the Midi-Pyrénées Teacher Training Institute] renewed the agreement that makes it possible for students from each university to study and serve a practicum in the host country.

Dean **Claudette Tardif** is delighted to renew this partnership - an initiative during her deanship - that has been in existence for five years. Students from France cover a part of their pedagogical training in Alberta, while Faculté Saint-Jean students get first-hand experience of a practicum overseas.

IUFM's Director, **Marc Courvoisier**, states that it is important that these exchanges continue, as teachers in France must now be fluent in at least two languages, and Canada offers a natural bilingual setting.

Twenty-one Faculté Saint-Jean students are presently in Paris taking a course in French, French theatre and culture. ◆



From left to right, Barry Tonge, Director of the Education Abroad Program for University of Alberta International; Claudette Tardif, Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean; Marc Courvoisier, Director of IUFM, and Michel Carral, Associate Director of Public and International Relations at IUFM.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THESE EXCHANGES

STUDENTS FROM FRANCE



Thomas Fadhuile and Guillaume Lesaim.

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN STUDENTS



Denise Anctil.



Nadine Evans.

METROPOLIS

On the eve of the Metropolis Conference, March 22, 2003, the Board of Directors of Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada-communautés francophones en régions minoritaires (CIC) [Citizenship and Immigration Canada-Francophone communities in minority regions or CIC] hosted a reception at Centre Saint-Jean.

More than 200 delegates met in Edmonton following an invitation from the Honourable **Denis Coderre**, Federal Minister responsible for Immigration. The Minister hopes to renew the welcome mechanisms within the Immigration Department.



*From left to right : **Luketa M'Pindou**, representing Alliance Jeunesse-Famille de l'Alberta Society (AJFAS), **Claudette Tardif**, Dean of FSJ, **Jean Augustine**, Federal Minister, Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, and **Marc Arnal**, co-president of CIC and Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean as of July 1st, 2003.*

MUSIC PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE AT FSJ

PIANO RECITAL



Jacques Després at the piano.

On March 11, 2003, Dr. **Jacques Després**, University of Alberta professor of music, presented a recital of ballads from composers Jacques Hétu, Claude Débussy, Johannes Brahms, and Frédéric Chopin at the Alberta College Conservatory of Music as part of Faculté Saint-Jean's activities within La Semaine de la francophonie. This year, activities were held in universities and communities throughout Canada from March 10 to March 23.

SPRING CONCERT

La Chorale Saint-Jean held its spring concert on April 12, 2003, at the McDougall United Church in Edmonton. The more than 700 persons in attendance were treated to a presentation of sacred hymns in Latin, popular songs in French, and Negro Spirituals in English. Chorale Saint-Jean performs to sell-out crowds at Christmas and in the Spring of each year.



*Soloists **Randy Boissonnault**, **Colin Brereton**, and **Jerry Cavanagh** interpret Moses Hogan's Negro Spiritual 'Til The Spirit Moves In My Heart'*

AN OPERA EVENING

Professor **Claude Couture**, director of the Canadian Studies Centre at FSJ, organised an evening of opera at Centre Saint-Jean on February 27, 2003, to better acquaint Edmonton audiences with the works of a Canadian diva who played a large role on the international circuit, namely soprano **Emma Lajeunesse (1847-1930)**, better known as **Emma Albani**. The opera star studied in Paris and Milan, and had an illustrious career in Europe and North America.



***Katherine Kubash**, soprano, **Jeremy Spurgeon**, pianist, and **Mireille Rijavek**, mezzo-soprano.*

DONOR RECOGNITION

During the afternoon of October 5, 2002, Faculté Saint-Jean launched *Saint-Jean se métamorphose* (The Metamorphosis of Saint-Jean), a commemorative album of photos and biographies of donors who made possible the construction of FSJ's new student residence and the renovation and transformation of the old residence into Centre Saint-Jean, a multidisciplinary centre.

Donors Ernest Chauvet and Cécilia Vaugeois-Tardif.

The fund-raising committee, under the leadership of the city lawyer **Hervé Durocher**, raised $325 000. This made it possible to access funds from the Federal and Provincial governments as well as the University of Alberta. A donor wall has also been installed in the reception hall of Centre Saint-Jean. Thank you to all who have made this metamorphosis possible.

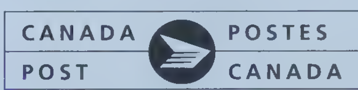


Donors Thérèse Lebel and her daughter Louise, Madeleine Got, and Jocelyne Verret, writer and editor of Saint-Jean se métamorphose.

Donors Liliane Coutu-Maisonneuve, Hervé Durocher, and Claudette Tardif.

SUMMER 2004 EDITION

- Dr. Marc Arnal, new Dean of FSJ
- Professor Albert La France, retirement
- Dr. Laurier Fagnan, new music professor
- Foreign dignitaries at FSJ
- Laura Thompson, Baxter & Alma Ricard Scholarship





FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN NEWS

This English edition of Faculté Saint-Jean's French newsletter *Nouvelles de Saint-Jean* is published once a year to inform the broader community of the various accomplishments and activities of the Faculté.

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FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN NEWS



From left to right: Nancy Huston, world-renowned author, originally from Calgary; Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ; Pamela Sing, Professor of French literature at FSJ, and Marie Desrochers-Kingston surround Louis and Marcelle Desrochers. Article on page 23



Faculté Saint-Jean students Albert Mbuyi and Oumy Ndir (foreground) stand before Dean Marc Arnal and His Excellency Amadou Diallo, Ambassador of Senegal Article on page 17.



Professor Claude Couture, Canada-US Fulbright Award recipient. Article on page 3.

IN THIS EDITION

DEAN'S MESSAGE

The past year has been a very busy and exciting one for our Faculté Saint-Jean and for our excellent staff and students, and the next year should be equally rewarding. During the past twelve months, we have developed a new mission statement more focused on ensuring Faculté's relevancy both within the University and without. While remaining steadfastly dedicated to serving the Francophone community in Alberta and in Canada, we have played a leadership role in developing more robust definitions of "la francophonie", which include Francophones of different racial, ethnic, or national origins, as well as of different mother tongues. Our family at FSJ is now more diverse than ever and more welcoming than ever of that diversity, which is a core strength of our institution. Further, we have reached out to groups which support our national commitment to diversity, equity, and community. Whether with the Mahatma Gandhi Canadian Foundation for World Peace, the School of Native Studies or through our Louis



Marc Arnal.

Desrochers Lecture Series, we have opened our doors and our hearts to numerous friends and collaborators.

Another core strength is the relationship between our teaching and administrative staff and our students. We have clearly demonstrated our commitment to enhancing that strength, and we will continue to do so into the future. As in past years, our professors and our students have distinguished themselves in many ways, some of which are reported in this issue. While it is a term that has suffered from overuse, excellence takes on its original and full meaning when we speak of our fine teaching faculty and our dynamic student population.

Program development initiatives during the past year included two new bilingual programs, the first a Bilingual Bachelor of Nursing with the Faculty of Nursing, the second a Bilingual Bachelor of Conservation and Environmental Sciences with the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics. Deans Gray and Morrison, Assistant Dean Paul, and Associate Deans Naeth and d'Entremont deserve much credit along with former Dean Claudette Tardif of FSJ.

As well, we have developed a comprehensive technology plan, reviewed our course offerings, and made a number of significant calendar changes aimed at providing more opportunities for students while capitalizing more fully on our strengths. We have also set in place a more decentralized management structure which relies more heavily on collegial decision-making.

Maître Hervé Durocher has done a commendable job of chairing Faculté's Advisory Board. Under his leadership, the Board has provided valuable direction and helped to chart an exciting course for the future. For example, we have worked with the board and staff of the new Augustana Faculty to propose name changes more reflective of their reality and of our evolution. In future, it is proposed that the Faculté be known as Campus Saint-Jean, University of Alberta, and Augustana as the Augustana Campus. This change further consolidates our ties to and our role within one of the finest universities in Canada. Please watch for announcements in the fall, centered on the name change but much broader in scope.

At Faculté (Campus) Saint-Jean, we recognize our role in developing leaders of tomorrow with a vision for the future built on openness and generosity of spirit. We also recognize our important civic role in furthering Canadian values in our communities. Our objective is simple and ambitious at the same time: to be relevant.

Thank you for your continued support.

Marc Arnal

OUR VISION

That the Faculté Saint-Jean be recognized as the institution of choice for French-language university education by Francophone and Francophile students in Western Canada and beyond.

OUR MISSION

Faculté Saint-Jean's *raison d'être* is to provide, through teaching and research activities, a quality university education in the French language. Established to meet the educational needs of Francophones, Faculté Saint-Jean welcomes everyone who wishes to pursue post-secondary studies in a French-speaking milieu.

RESEARCH

CLAUDE COUTURE

CANADA – US FULBRIGHT

Faculté Saint-Jean congratulates Professor **Claude Couture**, director of its Centre en études canadiennes (Centre for Canadian studies), who has won a Canada-US Fulbright scholarship valued at US$25,000. He will be guest chair at the Jackson School (international studies) of the University of Washington in Seattle during the 2004-2005 academic year.

Professor Couture is doing a comparative study of Canadian and American press coverage of Napoléon 'Larry' Lajoie from 1896 to 1917. Americans considered baseball legend Lajoie one of their own. The researcher will study and compare the national discourse in the world of sports surrounding a baseball hero shared by English Canada, French-speaking Canada, and the United-States. If Americans claimed him to be "the first modern-day American baseball star at the beginning of the 20th century", Napoléon Lajoie was also popular in Canada because of his French-Canadian roots. The powerhouse hitter was immensely popular in Toronto, where he finished his baseball career as player-manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International Baseball League. Research will also try to identify how sports heroes are constructed and the way sports contribute to the creation of a national identity.

Professor Couture's award was part of the Fulbright senior professors' category. To understand the importance of this award, let us consider that one hundred and eighty such requests were made for research funding. In all, about 50 Canadian and American researchers, spread out over the nine eligible categories, are granted a Fulbright each year. The canditate's research record, the project submitted, and an invitation from an American institution are all part of the selection criteria. The success rate is 7 %. Professor Couture is the only senior University of Alberta professor to win this award.

The Canada-US Fulbright program is a bi-national program of the Canadian (Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade) and American Governments (Department of State). The program aims to foster a better understanding between the two countries by offering a sojourn to specialists from each country in the host country.

In Professor Couture's absence, the Centre for Canadian Studies at Saint-Jean will be under the direction of Professor Louise Ladouceur. ◆



Professor Claude Couture.



LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES IN CANADIAN STUDIES Fall 2004

September 30, 2004

The Bugnet Case and the Educational Rights of Francophone Minorities

Professor Angéline Martel, Télé-université, Université du Québec

November 15, 2004

Globalisation and Canada

Professor Jules Duchastel, Canada Research Chair at UQUAM

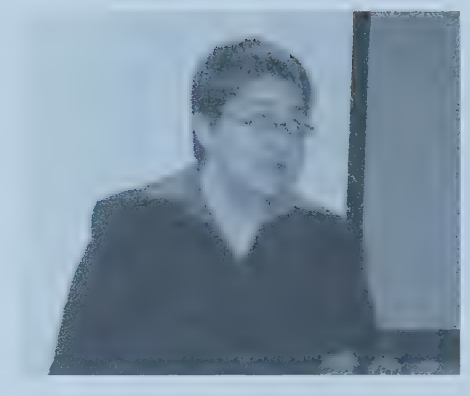
RESEARCH

NATIVE STUDIES

THE MÉTIS OF CANADA



From left to right: Jean Teillet, lawyer for Pape and Salter, Barristers and Solicitors in Toronto; Audrey Poitras, President of the Métis Nation of Alberta, and Vice-President of the Métis National Council; and Dean Marc Arnal, Faculté Saint-Jean.



Nathalie Kermoal.

As part of the Métis Conference on Métis people held at the SHAW Conference Centre, Faculté Saint-Jean held a reception in their honour at Centre Saint-Jean on March 11, 2004. Nathalie Kermoal, recently named Associate Professor of Native Studies (and Faculté Saint-Jean, UofA) and organizer of the events, was master of ceremonies.

In his welcoming remarks, Dean Marc Arnal expressed hope that this event would mark the beginning of new relations between the Métis peoples and the Francophone communities of Alberta and Canada. "We welcome you as members of our family. Without family, we are but background noise."

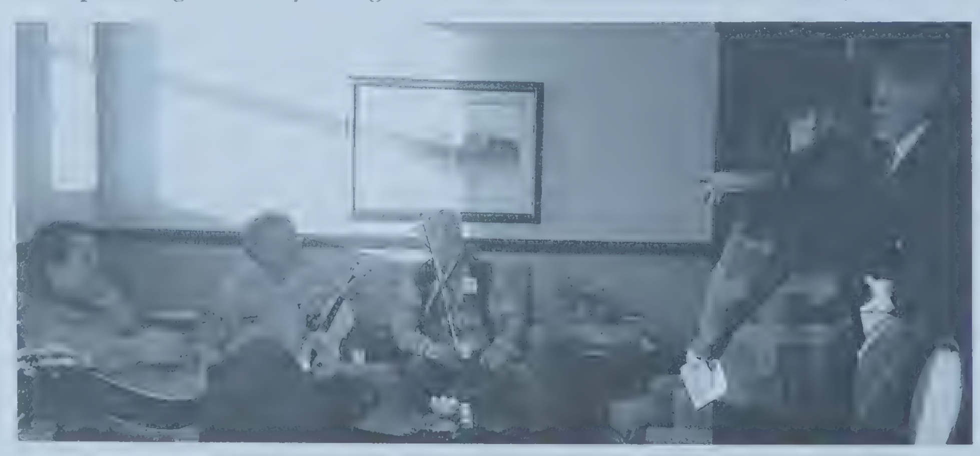
Audrey Poitras, President of the Métis Nation of Alberta, and Vice-President of the Métis National Council, expressed her delight at having had a partner such as FSJ in this conference on Métis people. She also expressed Clément Chartier's regrets, for he was detained in Ottawa because of a meeting with Prime Minister Paul Martin. In the past, Mrs. Poitras has also worked closely with Liliane Coutu-Maisonneuve, of the French-Canadian Association of Alberta, to secure recognition of the Fort Edmonton cemetery and to have it respected.

Guest speaker Jean Teillet retraced the historic events marking the lives of the Métis people living in the upper levels of the Great Lakes. Mrs. Teillet is a lawyer, and she defended the rights of the Métis in the very important Powley case. The Supreme Court of Canada recently confirmed in this case that the Métis make up a distinct people, and that they have specific rights, namely the right to hunt just as their First Nations counterparts, and also that there exist many historic Métis communities in Canada.

What Louis Riel's great-great-niece has found most gratifying in the Powley case is that 14 judges listened to the historic stories presented by the Métis, and that these 14 judges were all in agreement with what had been said. Guests were struck by the gracious simplicity of Jean Teillet as she recounted and analyzed the history of her ancestors.

Please note that Professor Kermoal is participating in a large-scale five-year research project on the Métis of North-West Saskatchewan. The University of Alberta, the University of Saskatchewan,


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Liliane Coutu-Maisonneuve and Dean Arnal discover some old friends amongst Métis musicians from Alberta and British Columbia.

RESEARCH

NEW PEDAGOGICAL TOOL

"THE POWER OF WORDS/LE POUVOIR DES MOTS"



Video participants; in the foreground: Lucille Mandin, Project Director, The Power of Words/Le Pouvoir des mots, and Jocelyne Verret, writer – wearing glasses Behind Lucille Mandin, from the outside left moving towards the centre: Sonia Houle, teacher at École publique Gabrielle-Roy; Marie Lavoie, Program designer, Alberta Learning/ministère de l'Apprentissage (AB); Pierrette Messier-Peet, Principal of École publique Gabrielle-Roy; Ginette Marcoux, teacher, McKernan Public School; Cynthia Pharis, lecturer, FSJ; Jean Patenaude, video director; and Eric Rice, ACCESS. Behind Jocelyne Verret, moving from the centre towards the extreme right: Rochelle Skogen, consultant – Le Pouvoir des mots; Charlotte Player, Principal, Mother Teresa School; Joey Dostaler, teacher, Mother Teresa School; Don Garry, teacher, McKernan Public School; Barbara Varrin, ACCESS; Theresa Von Hoydonk, teacher, Saint-François-Xavier School; Patricia Rijavec, educational consultant, Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord (Francophone School Board), and Émile Mandin.

This new pedagogical tool was unveiled simultaneously at Faculté Saint-Jean and to the public at large on ACCESS – Education Television on October 2, 2003. The Power of Words, made up of four videos, is a project that saw its inception in 1999. The videos were created under the direction of independent producer Jean Patenaude. French immersion and the acquisition of language in a classroom setting are very close to Professor **Lucille Mandin**'s heart and research. The videos were shot in various classrooms in the Edmonton area in French, English and Ukrainian. In an atmosphere of utmost respect, L'Atelier d'écriture – an organic, natural, structured, and dynamic approach to writing – was used to capture students' ideas on paper. The writers of tomorrow give themselves a free rein to express their ideas and to edit their stories afterwards. Teachers also wrote and shared this experience.

The four videos also contain interviews with Alberta writers who share their writing experience, hints as to what motivates them, and means of resolving writing challenges.

NATIVE STUDIES

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the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, and the Métis Council of North-West Saskatchewan have received a million dollar grant from the Social Studies and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) within the framework of its Community-University Research Alliances (CURA) program. Professor **Frank Tough** (School of Native Studies at UofA) and **Clément Chartier** (lawyer and President of the National Métis Council in Ottawa) will co-direct this project entitled *Otipimsuak* meaning *the free people* in the Mitchif language. ◆

RESEARCH

MAJOR RESEARCH IN THEATRE

"THE NEXT GENERATION MUST BELIEVE IN ITSELF AND WHAT IT HAS TO SAY.!"

Over the last four years, the Drama Program at Faculté Saint-Jean has known a strong resurgence. Twenty-two students are perfecting their craft in theatre arts whereas enrolment was made up of 3 students beforehand. Professor **Roger Parent** is designing a new pedagogy of performance within a cultural setting. He is working in collaboration with **Bernard Salva**, stage director and consummate artist, with 20 years of theatre in Paris behind him. Originally from Algeria, Bernard Salva has also directed plays in India, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, Canada, England, and Spain, in French and in English. Edmonton audiences will remember him from his bilingual show *SSSomething/Mon adoré démon* at the Edmonton Fringe Festival of 1998.

Professor Parent's challenge is to design an artistic pedagogy centred on the numerous needs of a more and more varied Francophone clientele. The drama professor wants to ensure that the current generation has the tools it needs to tell its own story and stories. All theatre workshops recently have seen their culmination in staged productions at Saint-Jean. In other words, it is time for Francophones in Alberta to tell their own story: [Translation] "Our clientele comes from a setting where the language is often threatened. Our solution is starting to interest other minority cultural groups. I hope that our Club de théâtre and its productions will contribute to Faculté Saint-Jean's vitality, contributing to its taking its place within the Francophone community… For the first time in a century, we have more French Immersion schools per capita in Alberta than elsewhere in Canada. The first thing to do is to train our teachers so that they can transfer this training to their schools, and where, by use of theatre and related arts, they can not only turn the students on to arts, language and culture, but also help the next generation believe in itself and what it has to say. The artistic and cultural competencies of Bernard Salva are very important to us. From the blending of languages and cultures in our drama program, I believe that only something very enriching will emerge."



Bernard Salva and Roger Parent.

For Bernard Salva, "it is important, to paraphrase Jacques Lecoq, to find a poetic universal base, a common one…


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The cast of Langues de feu/Tongues of Fire stand on either side of Roger Parent, 6th from left, and Bernard Salva, 6th from right.

RESEARCH

HEALTH RESEARCH IN FRENCH

A forum on health research in French in Western Canada was held at Faculté Saint-Jean on March 26 and 27, 2004. Sixty-five participants attended the forum; they hailed from the four Western provinces, the North West Territories, Yukon, Central Canada, and the Maritimes. A national and regional summative evaluation led off the two-day forum – discussions and task groups – the first of its kind in Western Canada.

According to Dr **Anne Leis**, national representative of the Consortium national de formation en santé, "health policies have a direct impact on health. Research must also study health policies… Research and training must interface… There is a complementarity between research, state of health, and factors influencing health… It is important for research to establish networks and to put more money on supporting families and early childhood… We must also share models of health care delivery rather than reinventing the wheel."

In a nutshell, other speakers picked up where Doctor Leis left off, confirming what she had said, and expressing the particular needs of each of their localities. In Saskatchewan, where Doctor Leis practices, 50% of the population is over 55, and there is a need for information sharing.



Anne Leis.



Sandra Saint-Laurent

According to **Sandra Saint-Laurent**, residents of Yukon, on average, are 35 years old. Focus should be placed on early childhood. "Francophones settling in the far North are a real asset: they have a sense of adventure, get involved in their communities, and are very creative."

Brian Conway, of British Columbia, would like to see a virtual health network set up in such a way as to permit access to the data base, ensuring that the person requiring health care in French would immediately be referred to the facility offering such services. He stated that "there are approximately 60 000 Francophones living in the greater Vancouver area: immigrants from Quebec and elsewhere, as well as squeegees, young people washing windshields at traffic intersections."



Brian Conway.



Denis Collette and Luc Therrien, Forum Ouest organizer

Denis Collette presented a summary of a major health centre project in Edmonton. Fund raising on a large scale is going on at present to build a bilingual health centre across the street from Faculté Saint-Jean. Proximity to a French church was of paramount importance for the Francophone seniors. All of the personnel of the new centre will have to be able to offer services in both French and English, and be sensitive to the Francophone language and culture. Mr Collette considers research on health conducted in New Brunswick earlier on in 2004 as an important source of information.

Mai Savoie, presented an overview of the situation in the Atlantic region. In rural areas, minority Francophones are

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Mai Savoie.

RESEARCH

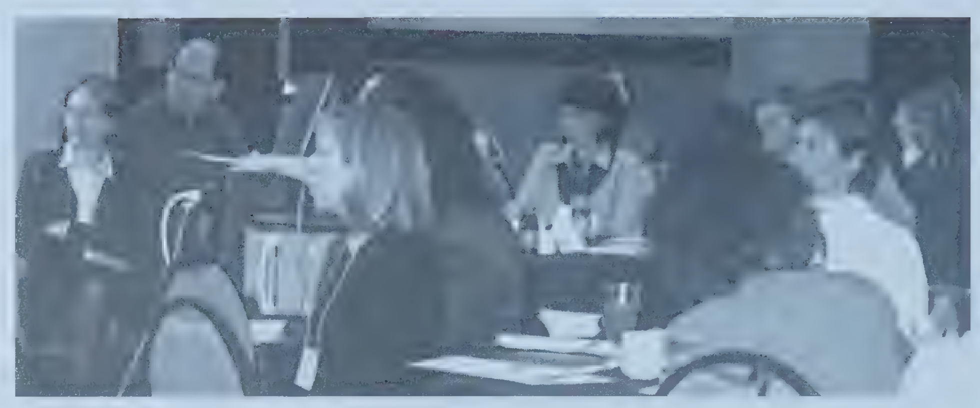
Health Research
continued from page 7...

doubly so. The four Atlantic Provinces participated in the symposium on research on health in Francophone minority settings held March 18 and 19. The aim was to act and move this case along. Researchers have signalled the lack of mention of language in the existing data banks.

Ontario and Manitoba concurred that as long as the health profile of the minority population is not done, it will remain difficult to target the needs.



Roxane Valade.



Some of the Forum Ouest participants.

According to **Roxane Valade**, needs are magnified three times in the North-West Territories. "The community is small and the Francophone population is different from elsewhere in Canada. There are approximately 1 000 Francophones scattered over a vast territory. There are few children, and adults have a very high socio-economic level of life. These people want basic health services in French. A study on early childhood and mental health needs has revealed that there is a lack of financial and human resources for health needs in French. Very little research has been done in that region, be it in French or in English."

All participants to this first Western forum on research on health in French concurred that there is a need for more research, and funding for research and health care delivery in French; there is also a need for tools to help break down the isolation of minority Francophone communities across Canada. ◆

ALUMNI HOUSE – LAUNCH

The official launch of the four-year BScN (Bilingual) program, a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Nursing and Faculté Saint-Jean was held six weeks later, namely on May 10, 2004, at Alumni House, on the UofA Campus. This program offers students the opportunity to obtain a bilingual nursing degree in Canada's two official languages.

A first cohort of 16 students is already enrolled in the 2004-2005 program, and fifty people are on a waiting list. Special ceremonies will highlight the program's inauguration in September 2004 at Faculté Saint-Jean. ◆



From left to right Denis Ducharme, President of the Secrétariat francophone; the Honorable Tommy Banks, Senator; Carl Amrhein, Vice-Provost, UofA; and Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ. Photos compliment of Mona Liles.



Genevieve Gray, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, UofA.

RESEARCH

THE CANADIAN UNITY COUNCIL

Canadians' opinions about themselves, their governments, and other countries – those are some of the questions contained in the national opinion surveys prepared by the Centre for Research and Information on Canada. **Andrew Parkin**, co-Director of CRIC, member of the Canadian Unity Council, presented the highlights of these studies at Centre Saint-Jean on March 20th, 2004.

Amongst the research results presented by Dr. Parkin :[Translation]

"Support for bilingualism is constant… Presently, in Alberta, support is at 41%... The most important change concerns the right to an education in French outside Quebec: 81% of the people surveyed are in favour … In Alberta, 74% of the people think that it is important to learn a 2nd language… French remains the most important second language in Canada – 65% support it in Alberta… There is a willingness to learn another language in Canada, to learn the other person's language. It is interesting to note that



From left to right: Marc Arnal, Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean; Michèle Stanners, Director – CUC, Prairies, Alberta, North-West Territories, and Nunavut; and Andrew Parkin, co-Director of the Centre for Research and Information on Canada (CRIC).

64% of those who do not speak French in Alberta wish that they could … Because of official languages policies, immigrants see Canada as a country that is open to immigrants… Only Ontarians believe that their province gets the respect it deserves… In the West, 72% of survey participants think that federal-provincial cooperation should be enhanced and that proceedings should be made more democratic … Quebec, Alberta, and the North-West Territories would like to have more powers… Multiculturalism is a source of pride."

For more information on the Centre for Research and Information on Canada (CRIC) and its numerous publications, please consult its Web site: www.cric.ca . ◆

Major Research in Theatre
continued from page 6...

Theatre is a world full of questions. We must help the students become human beings who become addicted to creation, who can imagine. Theatre must be complete, and we must work on both the body and sound. Movement must be precise; it is as important as the screenplay. Theatre must lead to a language that is alive; there must be fire in a body that works, and so the importance of a physical theatre at Faculté Saint-Jean. Through basic exercises, speech emerges from a silent body. If the body gets it right, the words will be the right ones. I find great joy in this work where I can draw upon my ten years of experience on the international theatre circuit and see how, as a Frenchman, I can meld with other cultures and see how we can find a mutual basis of agreement." [Translation]

The two men of theatre have been able to work together thanks to research funds from European universities collaborating with Faculté Saint-Jean, namely IGS and the Groupe SupdeCo Amiens from Picardie (France). The exchange of professors, on-site research and the shooting of supporting educational videos will cost about $ 500 000, and are made possible by the Curriculum Redevelopment Fund of the University of Alberta, la Société Radio-Canada (French CBC), and ACCESS Television.

At ACFAS-Alberta (the French-Canadian Society for the Advancement of Science) activities on March 20, 2004, held at Faculté Saint-Jean, Professor Parent presented the first series of supporting educational videos shot in Europe. "Each culture is a survival too… Creativity makes it possible to react to tragedy… Intercultural communication and exchange take place within history… It all depends on one's capacity to step into the other's shoes." [Translation] ◆

RESEARCH

NOON DAY TALKS

Three lunchtime conferences served to provide the impetus for an exchange of ideas between Faculté Saint-Jean personnel and the speakers. First on the list was Professor **François-Pierre Gingras**, head of the undergraduate school of political science at the University of Ottawa. In his February 24, 2004, presentation, Professor Gingras gave an overview of the recent changes at the University of Ottawa, namely the establishing of a school of political science that will have 33 instructors next year instead of the current 17.



François-Pierre Gingras

The University of Ottawa is a natural next step for political science graduates who complete their masters' studies at FSJ. Programs in public administration, in international development and globalization, national and modern language studies as well as women's studies are all areas of study that might interest Faculté graduates wanting to pursue their doctoral studies. Some were present and got first-hand responses to their queries.



Fritz Abel.

Canadian Studies and the Education section at FSJ brought in Professor **Fritz Abel** on March 1, 2004. The Augsburg University professor's talk centred on the aims of teaching French as a foreign language from a German perspective.

After the Second World War, French became a foreign language in Germany and is still taught from that perspective to this day. "The teaching of French still has a place in Germany because of tradition, for in reality, we don't know why we teach French in Germany… Competition now exists between French and other modern languages… At present, it is taught in Germany in an effort towards reconciliation. There is a need for understanding between French and German people." Faculté professors and students discussed marking systems in Germany with the guest lecturer, who is rather divided about that system for it is still based on what the student does not know rather than on what he or she knows. Members of the Education section at FSJ share the feeling.

The third speaker in this series was Dean **Marc Arnal** who shared his thoughts on Canadian values and Faculté Saint-Jean's identity with staff and students on March 2, 2004.

The Dean spoke of the debt of gratitude the Faculté owes the Francophones of Alberta, while having both feet firmly planted in the reality of today's Alberta. The guiding principles of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms are those of equality/equity, diversity and community. These values are the basis of Dean Arnal's vision for the Faculté of the future. "We must affirm our Francophone identity and the diversity of our community." He firmly believes that "Faculté Saint-Jean will be the number one education institution in the Canada of tomorrow. Our bilingual engineering program has made the UofA's engineering program one-of-a-kind in Canada. We are an added value and starting to be considered as such…

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Marc Arnal.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

VICTOR MOKE-NGALA, HONOURED BY THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA



Victor Moke-Ngala.

Victor Moke-Ngala, a Master's student in Education at FSJ, received the *Alberta Solicitor General Crime Prevention Award* from the Honourable Heather Forsyth, Solicitor General of Alberta, on May 14, 2004.

Alberta thus recognized Victor's work with young people, mainly Francophone Neo-Canadians, and crime prevention. While he pursues his studies, Victor works for l'Alliance-Jeunesse Famille de l'Alberta Society, does some substitute teaching in Edmonton's Francophone schools, and teaches French as a second language at Alliance française of Edmonton. Whether as a teacher or as a volunteer, Victor Moke-Ngala knows how to be flexible; he knows how to motivate young men and women to lead productive lives. He is originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo and has been living in Canada for many years.

Each year, the Alberta Solicitor General recognizes young people, adults, community groups, and police officers from all over Alberta. Their efforts to make their communities safer and healthier stand out amongst the crowd. Congratulations, Victor! ◆

MARIE-CLAUDE VILLEMURE



Marie-Claude Villemure.

Marie-Claude Villemure, Master's student in Canadian Studies at Faculté Saint-Jean, has received a $9 300 Province of Alberta Graduate Scholarship. This one-year scholarship, available as of May 1st, 2004, coincides with the writing of Marie-Claude's thesis. A strong academic record is the major criterion of these scholarships. In 2002, Marie-Claude Villemure received the Oblates Gold Medal and an accompanying $1 500 scholarship. Each year, the Faculté graduate who maintains the highest academic standing in the Bachelor program is awarded this prize.

Since her childhood, Marie-Claude has also been interested in sports. It is thus not surprising that she is writing a thesis on sport and the national identities in Canada.

Québécois baseball player Éric Gagné, born in 1976 and a relief pitcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers, is at the heart of her research. In 2003, early in his career, Gagné won the Cy Young Trophy as the best pitcher in the National League. The student will research Francophone and Anglophone media, and will try to answer the following questions: For whom is Gagné a hero? Who sees him as a Canadian hero? As a Quebecois hero? As an American hero? "I want to examine how the two official linguistic groups in Canada have reacted to Gagné's victory, and how national identity is defined."

Marie-Claude Villemure is originally from Louiseville, Québec. She has a sense of adventure, and left home in 2000 to study on her own in Alberta. "I came to pursue my education in French, and also to learn English. Faculté Saint-Jean seemed like the best of both worlds." Marie-Claude completed a B.A. with a major in history at FSJ in 2002. Professor Claude Couture (see Canada – U.S. Fulbright article on page 3) is her thesis director. Once her Master's is behind her, Marie-Claude will seriously consider pursuing doctoral studies. Congratulations, Marie-Claude! ◆

STUDENT RECOGNITION

LAURA ANNE THOMPSON

"I WANT MY STUDIES TO HAVE MEANING, AN IMPACT."

For **Laura Anne Thompson**, life and studies are part of an inseparable whole. Because of her Anglophone name, Francophones often ask her what her maiden name is. When she tells them that Thompson is her maiden name, people have difficulty putting 'Francophone' and 'Thompson' together. It is that question of identity that underlies Laura's research. This year, she has the benefit of a Baxter & Alma Ricard Foundation Scholarship that allows her to put all of her efforts behind her doctoral research. "What a privilege – having time to reflect and to study without financial worries."

In her doctoral thesis 'Citoyenneté et identités francophones…' Laura explores how Francophones live their 'francophonie', how young people identify themselves, and the tags they pin on their identity. She wants to decrypt contemporary 'francophonie' in this era of globalization. The scholar will conduct interviews with teachers and students in two Alberta Francophone high schools: one in a heterogeneous and multicultural Catholic high school in an urban setting, and the other in a Catholic homogeneous rural area. Laura is pushing the limits of her 2001 Masters' thesis which centred on the teaching of world-wide 'francophonie'.

"The clash of cultures is an intrinsic part of my life. Whether it be at the linguistic, racial, social or cultural levels, this mixture is essential to me. I could not live in a homogeneous country." Travels and study practicums abroad have impressed upon Laura that the diversity at the heart of her childhood and of her life as a young adult are essential to her. Originally from Sudbury, Ontario, from an Anglophone father – whose mother was Francophone – and a Francophone mother who did theatre in French in Ontario, Laura has lived bilingualism and heterogeneity on a daily basis.



From left to right: Laurier Fagnan, Music Professor at Faculté Saint-Jean and a former scholarship recipient; Alain Landry, Director-General of the Baxter & Alma Ricard Foundation; and the current recipients Laura Anne Thompson and Gisèle Bouchard, respectively pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Alberta and Université Laval. A reception in honour of all the Foundation's scholarship recipients was held April 15, 2004, in Montreal. Hosts were Alain Landry, in photo; Antonine Maillet, writer of international renown; Paul Desmarais, major shareholder of Power Corporation of Canada; and the Honourable Bernard Lord, Premier of New-Brunswick.

On a personal note, Laura states that other than the indefectible support of her husband Derek Allerton, it is the encouragement of her paternal grandmother and that of her great-aunts that are the dearest to her. "These women, who appear innocuous, are wonderful examples of tenacious attachment to the French language. I keep up a regular correspondence with them, and each letter brings home to me the importance of the value they place on their Francophone identity." Congratulations, Laura! ◆

Noon Day

continued from page 10...

Together with the Faculty of Extension and the School of Native Studies, we champion Canadian values within the University of Alberta. We must strive to discover the 'other' in a spirit of mutual development and openness. We must be open and welcoming in acknowledging the very real psychological corner we have turned because of the broadening of our identity markers." According to Statistics Canada, 82% of Francophone couples living in the West are part of exogamous couples, and this information highlights the need for Francophones to find common grounds and value-added solutions with their counterparts. "Faculté Saint-Jean will be the spearhead in this discovery of the new 'Francophonie' within a framework of respect for tradition and history." ◆

STUDENT RECOGNITION

ALUMNI RECOGNITION AWARDS

L'Amicale Saint-Jean (Faculté Saint-Jean's Alumni) instituted its first Alumni Recognition Awards during its annual dinner held on October 5th, 2002, as part of Reunion Week-End. The 'Prix d'honneur' recognizes the contributions of alumni who have been active in their communities for a number of years and have made significant contributions at municipal, provincial, national, and even international levels. The 'Prix avenir prometteur' or 'Promising Future' highlights the accomplishments and potential of more recent graduates.

More than 100 people attended the October 4, 2003, Awards evening at Centre Saint-Jean. Dean Arnal mentioned that: "the students who frequent Faculté Saint-Jean shape it and leave their mark just as institutions do so on those who study there." The 2003-2004 recipients of the 'Prix d'honneur' were awarded to lawyer Hervé Durocher, professor France Levasseur-Ouimet, and Alberta Court of Queen's Bench Judge Vital Ouellette. The 'Prix avenir prometteur' was awarded to businessman Randy Boissonnault.



RANDY BOISSONNAULT

Born in Edmonton, Randy Boissonnault is presently a Principal Consultant with Conroy Ross Partners Limited, a leading Alberta-based executive search and management consulting firm.

From 1999 to July 2003, Randy served as one of two founding partners of Xennex Venture Catalysts Inc. Upon completing a BA in Canadian Studies at Faculté Saint-Jean, Randy earned an MA (Oxon.) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. As a former Students' Union President, Randy has had experience on the Board of Governors, the Senate and the General


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HERVÉ DUROCHER

Hervé Durocher, a native of Villeneuve, Alberta, obtained a Laws degree from the University of Alberta in 1968. He also studied at the University of Ottawa and at Collège Saint-Jean. He established his own law firm in Edmonton in 1973. He has defended cases before the law courts of Alberta as well as the Supreme Court of Canada.

Hervé's dedication to his community stems back to 1972, when he presided over the start-up of the Club Richelieu, and assisted in the founding of Caisse Francalta Credit Union (now Capital City Savings & Credit Union).


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FRANCE LEVASSEUR-OUIMET

France Levasseur-Ouimet has taught at Saint-Jean since 1976. She takes official retirement as of July 1st, 2004. In the fall, she will take up a part-time position as writer-in-residence and will develop writing courses for seniors.

France was born in Fort Kent, Alberta. Her mother was Québécoise, her father Acadian. Through teaching, music, and literature, France reveals a deep attachment to her Franco-Albertan heritage. Her *Grand livre d'images*, the story of the pioneers of her youth, was published in 1994. Over the years, France has written over 15 plays, three of which are musical comedies, and nearly all of the 59 songs in them.

Her love of community is also reflected in the exhibits that she has developed for Centre Saint-Jean's historical room. France has also written numerous articles and five books on the history


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VITAL OUELLETTE

On July 2, 2002, Vital Ouellette was named Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta. He obtained a Laws degree from the Université de Moncton in 1981 and a Bachelor of Arts from Faculté Saint-Jean in 1978.

Admitted to the Bar of Alberta in 1983, Vital Ouellette practiced general law in St. Paul, Alberta. There, he acquired a vast experience in penal and civil litigation, in real estate law, in the law of succession and in family law. Very early on in his career, he was drawn to the question of linguistic rights and got involved in the Van Brabant case (St-Paul).

Vital Ouellette is past president of l'Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta. Before being named judge, he was a member of the St.Paul Regional Legal Aid Appeals Committee, and President of the Conseil scolaire francophone


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STUDENT ACCESS TO PROFESSORS

FROM CASABLANCA TO EDMONTON



Appreciative students take Professor Safouhi (right) by limousine to an Edmonton restaurant in recognition of their professor's devotion and skilled instruction.

Faculté Saint-Jean offers its congratulations to **Mathematics Professor Hassan Safouhi**, who has won the 2003-2004 Award of Excellence in teaching. The eminent researcher finds innovative ways to make mathematics accessible; his passion for his subject matter spurs his students on, and they truly appreciate studying and learning under his direction.

Although it is early on in his career, Hassan Safouhi already has twenty-four 30-page publications in some of the best scientific journals in the world. "I love mathematics. I breathe them. It truly is a passion. My research is centred on creating new mathematical methods for calculating molecular energy… Ultimately, I want to develop a complete software package for calculating molecular energy." The *Journal of Computational Physics* recently asked him to join their peer-review jury. He is a contributor to the *Journal of Molecular Modeling*, the *Canadian Journal of Physics, Applied Numerical Mathematics* and the *Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and General*, and the *Journal of Computational Physics*.

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STUDENTS GET THE DEAN'S EAR



Dr **Marc Arnal**, Dean of FSJ, **Annie Chartrand**, Coordinator of Student Services, and **Christian Tremblay,** Cultural Coordinator, met with FSJ students so that the latter could make their views heard on a variety of topics related to student life on campus. FSJ administration is eager to hear of its students' concerns so that solutions within its realm can be brought about and student needs can be readily addressed. The students' lounge at FSJ is undergoing major renovations this summer, and students welcomed the opportunity to bring their input directly to the Dean's attention. So successful was this meeting that others on a variety of topics will be held on an ongoing basis during the university year. ◆

STUDENT ACCESS TO PROFESSORS

RECRUITMENT AND STUDENT SERVICES

March 11, 2004, Dean **Marc Arnal** and the Director of Recruitment and Student Services, **Denis Fontaine**, hosted school councillors and Edmonton area teachers to thank them for their continued support in heightening Faculté Saint-Jean's visibility. The Dean is particularly keen on obtaining feedback from former students with regard to services and programs their alma mater is wanting to offer in the near future.



Marc Arnal addresses guests

Interestingly, a study conducted in the fall of 2003 at FSJ revealed that 70% of the current students had registered at Faculté Saint-Jean because they had heard of the institution through their teachers, former FSJ students themselves. Other significant data obtained are that 65% of FSJ students come from French Immersion or French as a Second Language programs; 13%, from Francophone programs throughout Western Canada, and that 4% are part of exchange programs (Paris, Toulouse, Quebec, etc.).

Denis Fontaine introduced his newly-minted team of recruiters and service personnel, and spoke about the various programs offered at FSJ as well as the numerous scholarships available to students. In 2003-2004, FSJ students received more than $215 000 in scholarship aid.



From left to right: Denis Fontaine, Director, Recruitment and Student Services; Caroline Thibault, Liaison Officer; Annie Chartrand, Coordinator of Student Services; Christian Tremblay, Cultural Coordinator; Geneviève Daigle, Assistant to Student Services; and Yannick Vienne, Liaison Officer.

From Casablanca

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Far from working in an ivory tower, Professor Safouhi designs strategies with colleagues from FSJ in order to establish interdisciplinary links between mathematics and physics (with Professor Marc de Montigny) as well as between philosophy and mathematics (with Professor Donald Ipperciel). A self-proclaimed workaholic, Hassan Safouhi is blessed in that he functions very well on only five hours' sleep a day, and manages to squeeze in some time for soccer and swimming.

Hassan Safouhi is proud of his Berber heritage. Born in Casablanca (Morocco), he did his Master's studies at Hassan II University in Casablanca, his doctoral degree at l'Université Blaise Pascal in France. This was followed by post-doctoral studies at l'UQUAM (Montreal) from 1999-2001. He has been teaching at Faculté Saint-Jean since 2001. The following year, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada awarded him a four-year research grant. He became a Canadian citizen in 2003. ◆

THE WORLD AT SAINT-JEAN

MEXICAN DELEGATION VISITS FSJ

On June 17, 2003, a Mexican delegation from the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education (Guadalajara Campus) came to Faculté Saint-Jean (FSJ) in order to become better acquainted with the Faculté's French as a Second Language Program (Programme de bourse d'été de langues – PBEL). The possibility of mutual exchanges with Mexico was also discussed with regard to regular students as well as teachers seeking professional development. Faculté Saint-Jean offered the visitors a tour of the building, of Residence Saint-Jean, and of Bibliothèque Saint-Jean.

it was thus that a few weeks before the official start of his mandate as Dean of FSJ, **Marc Arnal** met with his Mexican counterparts to set into motion the establishment of exchange programs for the near future. ◆



From left to right: Ed Aunger, Professor of Political Science; Lucille Mandin, Professor of Education; Yvette d'Entremont, Associate Dean of Academics; Miguel A. Montoya, Director of International Affairs, Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education; Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ as of July 1st 2003; Stéphane Vigeant, Professor of Economics; Edwin Warren Stifling, director of International Undergraduate Programs; Eduardo Estva Armida, Dean of the Administration and Social Sciences Division; Gerardo Velasco Gutièrrez, Head of the Accounting and Finance Department; Geneviève Daigle, Assistant to Student Services; Danielle Nantel, Assistant to the Director-CERF (Centre d'enseignement et de recherche en français/Centre for Teaching and Research in French).

ALUMNI RECOGNITION
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RANDY BOISSONNAULT

Faculties Council. A former Fellow of the *Centre for the Study of the Presidency* in Washington D.C., Randy has been invited to share his views on leadership and small business development with the Rocky Mountain Business Seminar and the Mondial de l'entrepreneuriat, in Ottawa and Montreal. He is Secretary of the Board of the Chambre économique de l'Alberta and is the Past Chair of the Board of the *Centre for Family Literacy Society of Alberta*. Randy remains active with Faculté Saint-Jean as a member of the Community Advisory Council and as a tenor in the Faculté's Chorale Saint-Jean. ◆

VITAL OUELLETTE

du Nord-Est de l'Alberta (1994-1998); he also sat on the Executive Council of l'Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta from 1999 to 2001.

A native of Brosseau, Alberta, Judge Ouellette gives tirelessly of himself to many non-profit organizations within his community, namely Kindness in Action and Habitat for Humanity.

Vital and his wife Colleen (MacDonald) have three children, all of whom have studied at Faculté Saint-Jean. ◆

HERVÉ DUROCHER

Hervé was president of l'ACFA (French-Canadian Association of Alberta) from 1975 to 1977. In 1999, he led the successful fund-raising campaign culminating in the construction of the new students' residence at Saint-Jean. He became president of the Faculté's Advisory Board in 2001 and was named to the Senate of the University of Alberta in 2002.

At the national level, Hervé Durocher served on the Board of Directors of Canada World Youth from 1986 to 1994. In 1998, Hervé was named to the tribunal of the Canadian Human Rights Commission. ◆

FRANCE LEVASSEUR-OUIMET

of Franco-Albertans, including *D'année en année, de 1659 à 2000...* (From year to year, 1659 to 2000...)

In 2003, France received the Ordre des Francophones d'Amérique from the Government of Québec. A decade earlier, Edmonton honored her with its YWCA Community Service Award. She served as president (1989 to 1991) and vice-president (1986 to 1989) of l'Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta. ◆

THE WORLD AT SAINT-JEAN

AFRICA – A DAY FOR HOPE

His Excellency **Amadou Diallo**, Ambassador of Senegal, graced Faculté Saint-Jean with his presence November 13, 2003. Centre Saint-Jean was filled to capacity at lunchtime as all sectors of the community came to hear him speak on NEPAD, The New Partnership for Africa's Development. Ambassador Diallo stressed that NEPAD was born because African countries want to create their own future and to develop partnerships directly with developed countries willing to work with their African counterparts: "NEPAD wants to re-establish the link between these two worlds". African heads of state from South Africa, Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, and Senegal initiated the creation of NEPAD.

The Ambassador stressed that in the past, whenever African countries received help from the Western World, donations came with a codicil, namely Western solutions applied to African situations. NEPAD's primary objectives are to "eradicate poverty; to place African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development; to halt the marginalisation of Africa in the globalization process and enhance its full and beneficial integration into the global economy; and, to accelerate the empowerment of women." NEPAD's website: **http://nepad.org/en.html**.

All speakers stressed that whether it was in Africa or in Canada, hope comes with action, appropriate action. **Pierre Champagne**, Director of the consultant group CCISD (Centre de coopération internationale en santé et développement/Centre for International Cooperation in Health and Development) spoke about the AIDS pandemic in Africa and hopeful solutions that are being implanted. "The fight against sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in Africa is a source of hope. When the local health workers succeed



His Excellency Amadou Diallo, Ambassador of Senegal.

in treating and curing STD, the spread of HIV is also curbed… Young people talking to other young people have a much greater impact than publicity campaigns offering way too much information at one time…A project in nine countries of Western Africa is having a positive impact because local health workers deal with the local community groups." In Edmonton, la Société éducative de l'Alberta works with the Franco-Albertan community in adult education, using new technologies. **André Boudreau**, the society's director, announced that his group has signed an agreement with the Canadian International development Agency (CIDA) for a training program and on-site training in computers for the young people attending the University of Cameroon at Yaoundé, capital city of Cameroon. The society is also active in HIV/AIDS prevention in Cameroon and elsewhere in Africa. It has created the Web site **http://maximum.virtuelle.ca**, an educational tool to help young Africans to make healthy choices regarding their sexual life. Thanks to this site and video conferencing, young people from the Yaoundé and Dakar campuses were able to communicate directly with the speakers of the 'Africa – A Day for Hope' conference.

In Canada, according to Dr **Hélène Wirzba**, Director of the Lethbridge HIV Connection Society and member of the Alberta Community Council on HIV, a coalition of 14 regional agencies on HIV/AIDS, there are 500 000 cases of HIV, 900 of which have erupted since 1998. Dr Wirzba stressed the need of preventing outbreaks of Hepatitis C and HIV. The doctor believes that the battle in Alberta must be on various fronts: with drug users, prison inmates, gay populations, young immigrants, and seasonal workers. She stated that progress has been made over the past 10 years: "in the past, one expected to die of AIDS, whereas nowadays, one must learn to live with AIDS, a chronic illness. Community groups now have sufficient information to enable them to initiate projects and develop programs as equal partners with university researchers." ◆



Dr Hélène Wirzba and Pierre Champagne (seated), and André Boudreau, Director of la Société éducative de l'Alberta, speaking.

THE WORLD AT SAINT-JEAN

ISIDORE NDAYWEL È NZIEM SHARES HIS CONGOLESE HERITAGE

MBOTE. BONI? (HELLO. HOW ARE YOU? IN LINGALA)

Professor Ndaywel spoke at four of the conferences held in conjunction with "La Semaine de la francophonie", a 10 day activity-filled period held each year in March in Canada's Francophone educational institutions under the umbrella of l'ACELF (Canadian Francophone Education Association). Along with many members of the Congolese community of Edmonton, and with the support of the French-Canadian Association of Alberta and of Faculté Saint-Jean, philosophy professor **Paulin Mulatris** organized a full day of activities at FSJ to highlight the culture and the accomplishments of the people from the Democratic Republic of Congo who have chosen to make Edmonton their home.



Marc Arnal, Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean, presents a symbolic key (FSJ vest) to guest speaker Isidore Ndaywel è Nziem – writer and Director of languages of l'Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie, in Paris.

While at Faculté Saint-Jean, **Professor Ndaywel** first participated at a conference on diversity held March 17th at Centre Saint-Jean. This theme was a natural follow-up to the interactive display put on by La Caravane de la Tolérance of Montreal. Francophone and immersion students in the Edmonton area participated in this activity at Saint-Jean. La Caravane is a project initiated by the Jewish community to make Quebec schoolchildren aware of the consequences of prejudice. It travels across Canada, meets students, produces activity kits and puts on an interactive play for high school students.

Zakaria Lingane's purpose is to "vaccinate" audiences, wherever the Caravane travels, against all forms of intolerance. He believes that tolerance is "a dynamic concept, a reciprocal attitude, a step towards others." For his part, **Paul Dubé** proposes interculturalism as opposed to multiculturalism; he believes that it does not suffice for people to live



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From left to right: FSJ Associate Dean Yvette d'Entremont, and panelists Isidore Ndaywel, Satya Das (writer and businessman), Paul Dubé (UofA Professor), and Zakaria Lingane, Project Coordinator of la Fondation de la tolérance.



Isidore Ndaywel, writer; Rose-Marie-Bukuba, Master's student in Canadian Studies at FSJ; and Mireille Isidore, Coordinator of events surrounding La Caravane de la tolérance's visit.

THE WORLD AT SAINT-JEAN

ISIDORE NDAYWEL
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From left to right: Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ; Jean-Marie Yamba-Yamba, moderator; Thomas Matukala President of l'ACCE (Association de la communauté congolaise d'Edmonton (ACCE)); and Alain Nogue President of l'ACFA (French-Canadian Association of Alberta – Edmonton Region



Denis Tardif, Director of the Secrétariat francophone conveys wishes from the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, Alberta Minister of Community Development

parallel to one another, rather it is necessary to establish bridges that permit stakeholders to get to know one another. According to **Satya Das**, one should aim for a "voluntary assimilation". He believes that "Canadian society is setting forth an example of how to live together to the rest of the world". **Isidore Ndaywel** believes that "to be Canadian represents not only good fortune, but a challenge and a responsibility. Canada is a true planetary village… In other words, all of the World's cultures belong to everyone…" He believes that diversity exists and that it behooves us to change the way in which we consider each other.



*Philosophy Professor **Paulin Mulatris** (FSJ) is seen at lunch time (second from left) sharing his drumming skills along with FSJ student David Brown, and professional musicians Akin Ashontoye, originally from Nigeria, and Daniel Kasongo, originally from the Congo and now part of the musical group Le Village in Ottawa.*

In his first conference of the March 18th Congolese Day activities, writer and historian **Isidore Ndaywel è Nziem** presented an overview of the Congo as a country, its languages and cultures – in this case, the Democratic Republic of Congo, of which Kinshasa is the capital. He believes that his country of origin is, in a way "victim of its own riches", since rubber, gold, uranium, diamonds, copper, tin, cotton, tea, and cassava are only some of its plentiful resources. In a society where the notion of family is front and centre to all activity, the partitioning of Africa along artificial borders at the Berlin Conference (to prevent the splintering of Europe) was particularly disastrous. Just how complex a country the Congo is is reflected in the fact that "there are four national languages, namely: Lingala, Swahili, TchiLouba, and

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THE WORLD AT SAINT-JEAN

Isidore Ndaywel

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Paulin Mulatris introduces Isidore Ndaywel è Nziem.

Kikongo. These are over and above the local/ethnic and regional languages. French is the official language of the country, but the Congolese's first choice is to speak in one of their national languages… There are large Christian regions along the coast due to the Portuguese and Belgians."

In the evening, the speaker picked up where he had left off and elaborated on the direction of the Congo in the future. "Even though this is the Congo's 44th year of post-colonial rule, the country is still in its decolonisation period… There is a need to find a formula permitting the exercise of a certain form of democracy and the introduction of political alternation; there is also the need to organize the country so as to resolve the problems left up in the air since the colonial period; there is also the need to find a way of moving away from political and administrative governing based on ethnicity that has been left behind by the colonial Belgian government… For the sake of the Congo's future, we must strive to find short-cuts leading to the Congo's promotion in order to establish a development plan, to identify our partners and to call upon the services of the whole Congolese Diaspora."

On the following day, Isidore Ndaywel addressed people attending ACFAS-Alberta's (the French-Canadian Association for the Advancement of Science-Alberta chapter) yearly convention. This time, he spoke on Francophone strategies for the dissemination of French. This is in direct relation to his work as Director of languages of l'Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie, in Paris.

According to philosophy professor **Paulin Mulatris**, who introduced the guest speaker, "there is no better way to destroy a people's identity then to manipulate the history of a people… that is what happened to the Congo until Mr. Ndaywel's book came out." In 1998, Duculot published *Histoire générale du Congo: de l'héritage ancien à la République Démocratique*, a general history of the Congo from its



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Chantal Lembagusala, Congolese designer and fashion show coordinator, introduces models.

LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES

CÉLINE GALIPEAU,
CBC INTERNATIONAL REPORTER


Claude Couture, Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies at Faculté Saint-Jean; Céline Galipeau, guest speaker; and Yvette d'Entremont, Associate Dean (Academic) at FSJ

Every year since its inception in 2001, the Louis Desrochers Lecture Series in Canadian Studies, has brought a variety of speakers to Edmonton in order to promote an exchange of ideas with the community and build bridges between Canadians. The 2003-2004 academic year was no exception.

Céline Galipeau, international reporter with la Société Radio-Canada spoke to a packed house January 21, 2004. As a "witness of our times", she gave a moving account of the various conflicts she has covered around the world, and most recently in Iraq, in Asia, in Kosovo, and in Chechnya. The world-renowned reporter has worked for our national television station for more than twenty years and got her first overseas assignment in 1990, when she was sent to cover the Gulf War. Subsequent assignments took her to London, Paris, Moscow, and Beijing. Céline Galipeau is known for getting her interview subjects to tell their own stories in their own words. ◆

QUÉBEC MINISTER SPEAKS TO FRANCOPHONE COMMUNITY


Denis Ducharme.

A member of the Québec National Assembly since 1998, **Benoît Pelletier**, Minister of Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs since his reelection in 2003, presented his government's views on the actual state of our Federation on March 23, 2004. According to the minister, there is a need to revitalize Canadian Federalism. [Translation] "The Government of Québec… is more than ever determined to work with all of its Federation partners so that a new synergy, based on understanding and mutual respect, on open-mindedness, and on the search for a compromise when it is desirable, may be established…"

A reception, sponsored by l'ACFA provinciale (the French-Canadian Association of Alberta), followed at La Cité francophone. The Honourable **Denis Ducharme**, member of the Alberta Legislature from St.Paul – Cold Lake, presented greetings from the Government of Alberta. ◆


From left to right: George Arès, President of FCFA (Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne); Claude Couture, Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies at FSJ; Benoît Pelletier, Minister of Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs; and Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ, surround Louis Desrochers

LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES

LITERATURE:

PROFESSOR TED BLODGETT

Literature was the domain of the two other conferences in the 2003-2004 series. First to address the Edmonton audience was Professor emeritus **Ted Blodgett**, of the University of Alberta, on February 25, 2004. During his talk, the renowned author and poet, twice recipient of the Governor General's Award in literature and well-known to Faculté audiences, explored the interface between literary history and the notion of being in Canada. Briefly, whether one deals with history or literary history, Ted Blodgett believes that it all depends on whoever is writing it, his or her judgment, ideology, knowledge, and experience. He identifies five main cultures in Canada: English-speaking Canada, Quebecois, Aboriginal, Inuit, and migrant cultures. He distinguishes between the Acadians and the Quebecois as well as taking into account the differences that exist between the various Francophone communities of Western Canada.



Ted Blodgett.

"The dominant design in the literary histories of Canada is one that implicates a sense of the nation. In effect, they implicate several nations, each of which is perceived and constructed according to recognizable patterns of development. For nation always implies process: it is never complete, it always seeks fulfillment, and its projection of fulfillment continues to undergo modification in the course of time. The best literary histories are aware of this and manifest this awareness in their writing, sensitive to gradual modifications of desire and how this affects shifts in attitudes toward what the acceptable and unacceptable texts are that compose and recompose the canon. Nothing endures; nothing is meant to." Ted Blodgett has found that the enigma of time is primordial for the Francophones, while the Anglophones are mainly concerned with the enigma of space. In the long run, literary histories "… all appear in various ways to agree that all being is fragile, evanescent, and uncertain." ◆

Isidore Ndaywel

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ancient heritage to the Democratic Republic.

Isidore Ndaywel found immense joy in discovering Western Canada and its Francophone community, which were unknown to him until this trip to Edmonton. "For me, celebrating la Francophonie is living it in its many forms in more than 50 different nations… To paraphrase Albert Camus, they all inhabit the same country, that of the French language… they share common values, namely the solidarity of dialogue based on the respect of differences… An international Francophonie organisation, of which Canada is a member, is now in existence… There are ministerial conferences, summits… there are 130 million people speaking French in the World. My main responsibilities with the Agency reside with languages, writing, and book publication in French… French and English are really languages without borders because they are spoken on our five continents. They are also the official languages and working languages of the United Nations' organisations as well as of NATO… French is the foreign language most known in the world with regard to educational systems. In fact, supply is inferior to the demand. In spite of all this, there is a worrisome fact: the economic weight of North America… and the fact that some French specialists think that it enhances their value to speak English… Does managing a language not mean that one is responsible for that language?"

L'Agence, in the spirit of solidarity with users of the French language, maintains several cooperation programs such as the support to emerging writers: a category for those who are under thirty years of age, and another for those writers who have not published more than one or two novels. The complete programs and strategies of the Agency can be found on its Web site: **http://agence.francophonie.org/** .

Please note that all quotes have been translated from French. ◆

LOUIS DESROCHERS LECTURE SERIES

LITERATURE: NANCY HUSTON

"I DECLARE THAT LIFE IS WORTHY OF INTEREST AND THAT NO NIHILIST WHOSOEVER WILL EVER CHANGE MY MIND ON THAT SCORE."



From left to right: Nancy Huston, world-renowned author, originally from Calgary; Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ; Pamela Sing, Professor of French literature at FSJ, and Marie Desrochers-Kingston surround Louis and Marcelle Desrochers.

'Professors of despair': such was the catchy title of **Nancy Huston**'s May 19, 2004, conference on her first visit to FSJ. It attracted a full house of professors, avid readers, and members of the general public to Faculté Saint-Jean, as they were eager to hear and meet the complex but much admired Western-Canadian writer who has been living in Paris for nearly 30 years. Huston spoke in both French and English in her introductory remarks, but her conference was in French. Quotes in this article are therefore translations of her words.

One finds life in all of its guises in Nancy Huston's books. Exile, parent-child relations, death, and all other subjects spring from daily living, but the author treats them in such a way that these events, of themselves not at all innocuous, bring the reader to self-questioning. 'Professors of despair' is a soon-to-be-published essay, a reflection on her voracious reading of European writers at a moment in her life when she was unable to write, a situation brought about, in part, by her daughter's studies in Austria. As she is wont to do, Nancy Huston devoured the works of many writers, but especially those of Thomas Bernhard. Her reading brought her to ask if men, in literature, thought about death more than women. What she found about these men was that they were all born to loveless families, and that this was reflected in works redolent of nihilism.

"The individual is nameless. One does not want to owe anything to anyone… One dreams of committing suicide, but one is afraid of death." The author confided that she had known such a period in her life, as her mother had abandoned her husband and three children when Nancy was a young girl. For a long time, she pretended that this event was unimportant and subscribed to the "university of nihilism". Suicide had become her closest ally.

According to Huston, it is from men that talk of nihilism has come – Continental Europeans who have had sad childhoods and who, in turn, have not had children of their own. She does not find the same phenomenon amongst women nor amongst writers elsewhere. In French Canada, she has found only *Refus global* and its claim to a total freedom in art. Manon Barbeau is the only one left of that group to be able to put that terrible question into context: to sacrifice oneself for one's children or to sacrifice one's children for self-realisation.

For men and women, the link to life and death and to time is completely different. Huston believes that "life is a series of links" for the young woman, whereas the young man is simply an erotic symbol, not at all perceived as "a potential father". The young woman's body "reminds her of the possible presence of 'the other', whereas men are alone in their bodies… Total solitude is rarely a female fantasy." With her own children, Nancy Huston claims to have found not human emptiness, but rather a veritable enchantment: "Living with children, I have seen the slow emergence of language, of personality, the impressive elaboration of a being, his or her way of devouring the world, of making it his or hers, of entering into relation with it. I marvelled at the arrival of the first words, the first word games, then the studies, and then the choice of craft. I saw the cycle. And I saw that it was fascinating."

Some audience members interpreted Huston's words as meaning that to choose not to have children made one a nihilist. The author explained that she fully respected the rights of each man or woman to choose whether or not to have

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Professor Martine Cavanagh presents a souvenir of FSJ to Nancy Huston

SAINT-JEAN STUDENTS TRAVEL THE WORLD

JENNIFER DODSWORTH

A SUMMER WITH THE CONKLIN CIRCUS

Who hasn't, at least once in his or her lifetime, dreamed of running away with the circus? Well, Jennifer Dodsworth, a third-year education student at Faculté Saint-Jean, did just that during the summer of 2003.

Throughout her teens, Jennifer worked with her aunt at Edmonton's Klondike Days celebrations whenever the Conklin Circus was in town. Her aunt travels with the circus nine months of the year and Jennifer helped out at her busy 'Super Dogs' stand. Over the years, Jennifer became friends with the administrators and other employees of the Conklin Circus.



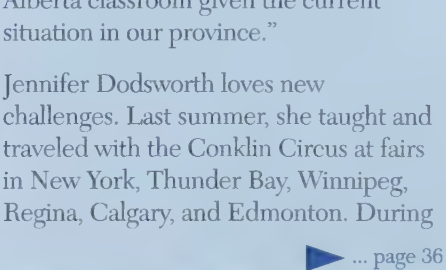
Upper Fort Garry, Assiniboine, Manitoba.

In the spring of 2003, the young woman made the jump to the 'big time' and went to New York (U.S.A.), where the Conklin Circus was performing. She trained under the guidance of the two other teachers of the traveling school. Eighteen students, from 5 to 15 years of age, are registered at this school on wheels. Only a short distance separates them from their parents' work site. When squeals of delight and fear travel over to them from the roller coaster ride, the students don't even bat an eyelash.

"A school on wheels! Now that was something quite different from anything I had previously known. This was a Christian school where the Florida curriculum was taught… The Conklin employees are educated people and they are keenly interested in their children's schooling. Parents and teachers know one another and friendships bring all of the circus people together – we were one big family… Upon arriving at a new site, we often had no more than forty-eight



Jennifer Dodsworth.



hours to set up our two classrooms. Once everything was ready, we could, on the other hand, answer the needs of each student since there were only 18 of them. I often wonder what I will do in an Alberta classroom given the current situation in our province."

Jennifer Dodsworth loves new challenges. Last summer, she taught and traveled with the Conklin Circus at fairs in New York, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, and Edmonton. During

... page 36



A typical Conklin Circus traveling classroom.

SAINT-JEAN STUDENTS TRAVEL THE WORLD

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN STUDENTS STUDY IN PARIS



From left to right: Dominique Landry, Nicole Nolette, and Julie Johnson partake in an Algerian tea ceremony at La Mosquée, a restaurant in Paris.



Gargoyles stand guard over the gothic Notre Dame de Paris Cathedral of Paris

Twenty-one Faculté Saint-Jean students travelled to Paris (France) July 15, 2003, for a two and a half-week stay in the city of lights, where they combined studies and sightseeing. Professor **Roger Parent** and **Annie Chartrand**, Coordinator of Student Services, had organized the educational tour.

Nicole Nolette, second-year arts student at FSJ, was on the trip. Her double major – anthropology and French language – made her a very observant participant. This is what she had to say about her combined study/tourist stay in Paris: "We arrived in Paris at 8 o'clock in the morning – exhausted, but excited… The course we were taking had three sections: theatre, French, and the history of Paris. What struck me most about Paris was its diversity. The two first sections of our course were given in a classroom, but the third was on-site… truly, a reality check on Paris. There were the heart of the city's historic buildings, the very expensive apartments or condos, etc.; then, there was the area where we lived during our stay, namely the Résidence Blaise Pascal. This was a poor neighbourhood even though our residence bore a historic name. There are many ethnic groups living in Paris, one of which is a heavy population from the Maghreb area of Northern Africa. This was my first trip to Europe. It was made that much more memorable because I was travelling with my friends." ◆

LISE VILLENEUVE TOURS ASIA OUR VERY OWN 'DIANA KRALL'



Lise Villeneuve, winner of the 'Tremplin international de la chanson Charles Trenet' or Charles Trenet International Springboard of Song, held in Paris, March 24, 2003.

In March 2004, while all over Canada citizens were engaged in celebrations – as varied as the population itself – aimed at highlighting la Semaine de la francophonie or Francophone Week, **Lise Villeneuve** [B.A., 1997] was setting off on an Asian tour that would take her to Hong Kong, the Philippines, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, and Kuwait. Congratulations and best wishes in your international singing career, Lise!

To know more about Lise's career: www.lisevilleneuve.com .

MUSIC

PROFESSOR ALBERT LA FRANCE RETIRES

Professor **Albert La France** retired on June 30, 2003. He taught music at Saint-Jean in its various incarnations for thirty years. During that time, he set up music programs and developed courses that he leaves as an inheritance for his successor.

When asked about his career, Albert La France answers with a line from an Édith Piaf song: "Je ne regrette rien./I have no regrets." In fact, the full house gathered at Centre Saint-Jean on June 10th to pay homage to him was noticeably in a celebratory mood. "The little guy from St.Paul, Alberta" had made good! [TRANSLATION] "Saint-Jean has been a real 'alma mater' to me; it was very nurturing. It allowed me to have a career in music. I did my undergraduate studies at Saint-Jean during the fifties. I directed Chorale Saint-Jean from 1963-1978. I taught music as I was doing my Master's and Doctoral studies in Music, and became a full-time professor in 1971. I have lived through the growing pains of Saint-Jean, and I leave with a feeling of accomplishment. I am thrilled that what I have set up in music studies at Saint-Jean will also be useful to future generations."



From right to left: Albert La France and his wife Renée Soulodre, and their sons: Samuel, Jess, Éric, and Denis.



Jeremy Spurgeon, harpsichord; Laurier Fagnan, Director of Chorale Saint-Jean, Colin Ryan, violoncello; and soprano Catherine Kubash interpret an excerpt from Nicandro e Fileno during the June 10th celebrations.



Renée Soulodre, Albert La France, and Claudette Tardif (Dean of Faculté Saint-Jean from 1995-2003) stand behind a sculpture presented to the retiring professor. The sculpture is by artist Herman Poulin of St.Paul, Alberta. Dean Tardif read a message of congratulations from Jean Duron, Artistic and Research Director of the Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles, who was unable to attend the celebrations.

The highlight of Professor La France's career was without a doubt the December 19, 2001, introduction of *Nicandro e Fileno*, opera written by Paolo Lorenzani (1640-1713), to the connoisseurs of baroque music at l'Opéra Royal du Château de Versailles (France). Thanks to Professor La France's expertise in baroque music and his determined efforts, it resurfaced to the amazement and delight of a full house. Details of this event are on the front page of the **June 2002, Vol. 1, Nº 1 edition** available on Faculté Saint-Jean's Web site: http://www.fsj.ualberta.ca/NouvellesSaintJean/ . Professor La France has many research and publication projects to occupy him during his retirement years. His only wish for retirement: good health. May it be granted him. ◆

MUSIC

PROFESSOR LAURIER FAGNAN PICKS UP THE BATON



Laurier Fagnan.

As in a well-orchestrated symphony, Professor **Laurier Fagnan** has taken over where Professor La France left off. There must be something in the water in St.Paul, for that is where he also hails from. Laurier Fagnan is a musician, choral director, and voice coach. In his teaching, he focuses on theory and practice as one. Nothing exists in a vacuum.

Laurier Fagnan's specialty being choral music, he is determined to attract a larger number of students to the study of music at Faculté Saint-Jean. [TRANSLATION] "Francophones are people who traditionally have always sung. We must instill that element of our culture in a greater number of our children and broaden their musical life… Their present must not be forgotten overnight." Chorale Saint-Jean, under his direction, will perform at the International Vocal Art Festival to be held in Trois-Rivières (Quebec).

For six years, Professor Fagnan has also been directing *Da Camera Singers*, the longest-standing chamber choir in Edmonton. It was established in 1961. The choir received rave reviews at the International Choral Competition *Music for the Millennium* held in Missoula (Montana) in 2003. The Alberta Baroque Ensemble and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra will be hosting *Da Camera Singers* in the near future.



Pianist Jeremy Spurgeon accompanies Kymberly White, Master's student in music coached by Professor Fagnan

Laurier Fagnan did his doctoral studies in choral directing at the University of Alberta; obtained a Master's degree in voice pedagogy from Université Laval and did his undergraduate degree in voice at the University of Alberta. Last year, he spent six months pursuing research in choral acoustics at the Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique (l'Ircam), in Paris. He presented his research findings at the Stockholm Musical Acoustics Conference where he was able to establish a rapport with world-renowned researchers. Professor Fagnan's research topic centers on the principles central to bel canto and their acoustic effect on choirs. Bel canto is

▶



Chorale Saint-Jean in concert

SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS AT SAINT-JEAN WITH THE HONOURABLE LOIS HOLE



The Honourable Lois Hole, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta; Marc Arnal, Dean of FSJ; Denis Tardif, Director of Le Secrétariat francophone de l'Alberta; and Frank McMahon, Dean emeritus of Faculté Saint-Jean, surround Marcelle and Louis Desrochers (foreground).

The holiday season got off to a very convivial start at Faculté Saint-Jean on December 4, 2003. The Honourable **Lois Hole**, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, was on hand to meet members of Saint-Jean's community. Because of her unfailing support of Saint-Jean, her great humanism and her warm and direct way of interacting with people, Mrs. Hole is considered a friend when she visits Saint-Jean, and everyone was more than delighted to have the chance to offer his or her compliments of the season to Alberta's grande dame.

In his opening remarks, Dean Arnal thanked the Lieutenant Governor for her continued support of Saint-Jean and for taking time out of her busy schedule to celebrate the holiday season with Saint-Jean's community. He also announced that students wanting a bilingual education in engineering could, on top of taking their first-year courses at Faculté Saint-Jean, follow-up in French during their third year at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal. Third and fourth-year courses are taken at the University of Alberta.

Megan Halverson, Marie-Rose Bukuba, and David Arsenault.

Donors and friends of Saint-Jean were treated to a succulent buffet, and got to meet a few of Saint-Jean's varied and talented students.

Megan Halverson, whose family is Anglophone, stressed that the fact that she could enrol in scientific studies in small classes weighed heavily in the Faculté's favour when she decided to pursue a postsecondary education there. So did the Dean's Citation for her academic performance in high school as well as the possibility of living in the luxurious Résidence Saint-Jean and perfecting her French. **Marie-Rose-Bukuba**, a survivor of the genocide of 1994 in Rwanda, is pursuing a Master's in Canadian Studies at Saint-Jean "so that I might go forth and meet Canada and also to make myself understood by my new country." The mother of eight also works part-time with children exhibiting behavioural problems. For **David Arsenault**, former president of the Faculté's Student Association (AUFSJ), studying at Saint-Jean has given him the opportunity of earning a university degree while learning a lot about personal time management as he worked at bridge-building between students of Faculté Saint-Jean and UofA campuses. A music recital brought the evening to a close. ◆



Mrs. Hole mingles with guests.

SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

CANADIAN SENATE MEETS FRANCOPHONE COMMUNITY AT FSJ

Members of the Canadian Senate met representatives from various Francophone organizations of Alberta on October 23 and 24 2003, in Edmonton. Meetings were held at Centre Saint-Jean.



First row, from left to right: Marie-Ève Hudon, Research Analyst for the Parliamentary Library; the Honourable Senator Rose-Marie-Cool; Jocelyne Verret, author and editor of Nouvelles de Saint-Jean; and the Honourable Senator Maria Chaput. Both senators attended the launch of Jocelyne's novel J'attendrai on October 24th at FSJ. Second row: From left to right: Patricia Rijavec, Education Consultant, Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord, Edmonton; Mirabelle Duguay, then General Director of L'Institut Guy-Lacombe de la famille; two members of the translation team accompanying the Senate Committee in the West; Tonu Onu, Committee Clerk, directly behind Senator Losier-Cool; Gerald Comeau, Senator from Nova-Scotia; Ernest Chauvet, President of the French-Canadian Association of Alberta; Gérard Finn, Special Advisor to the Senate Committee on Official Languages; a member of the translation team; Ernest Chiasson, President of the Acadian Society of Alberta; Raymond Lamoureux, then Director of the French-Canadian Association of Alberta; and Pierre Desrochers, President of the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord, Edmonton.



Dean Marc Arnal is flanked, on his right, by Senators Gerald Comeau (NS) and Maria Chaput (MB), and on his left by Senators Rose-Marie-Cool (NB) and Wilbert Keon (ON).

SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

CPF NATIONAL PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST HELD AT FACULTÉ

Students of French from all of Canada's provinces and territories participated in Canadian Parents for French's oratorical contest on May 29, 2004, at Faculté Saint-Jean.

During the banquet that followed the public speaking contest, **Marie-Claire Yuen**, from the Official Languages Commission, introduced guest speaker **Clara Hughes**, twice bronze medal winner in cycling at the Olympic Summer Games in 1996, and bronze medal winner in speed skating at the Olympic Winter Games in 2002. The Olympic competitor spoke of the wonderful friendships she has been able to establish with other athletes from France, Russia, Lithuania, etc., thanks to the French language. She believes that the "greatest form of respect for the other person is to learn that person's language". For six months each year, Clara Hughes lives in the Eastern Townships of Quebec; she lives and trains in Calgary, with a view to the Olympic 2006 speed-skating competitions, the other half of the year.



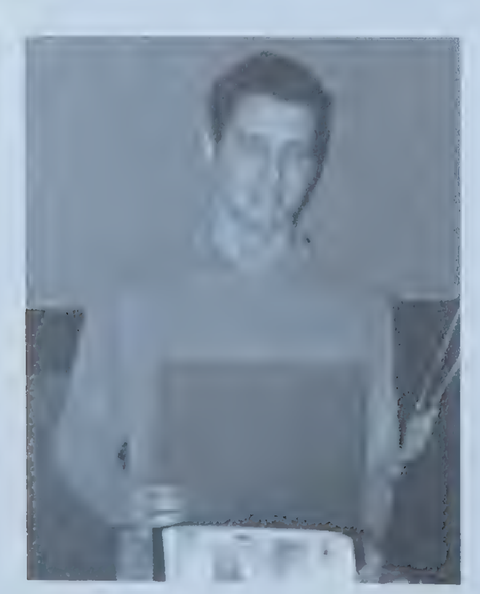
Ainsley Brittain, Toronto (ON), 1st place, core French category.



Andrew Tse, Etobicoke (ON), 1st place, early immersion category.



Yannick Hannelas, Mississauga (ON), 1st place, Francophone category.



Alex Taylor, Waterloo (ON), 1st place, special core French category.



Natalie Graves, Kiersteadville (NB), 1st place, late immersion category.

Carole Scipion, a representative of the French Consulate in Vancouver, was also on hand to announce the winner of the *Canada-France, 400 years of shared history* contest. In the photo at the top of page 31, Carole Scipion congratulates teacher Clare Tremblay and students of Harry Ainlay High School, in Edmonton, for their winning entry. The team has won a 10-day all expense paid trip to France. The final word of the day came to **James Shea**, CEO of CPF-National. He thanked Faculté Saint-Jean for its



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SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

CPF National
continued from page 30...

cooperation in hosting this year's contest and announced that next year's public-speaking contest would be held in Ottawa, in collaboration with the University of Ottawa. He encouraged the students to make their mark in the world and to share their competencies in French with others: "It is a national mission to be accomplished in partnership." He also thanked Heritage Canada for its generous financial support. ◆



James Shea.



Clara Hughes.



Marie-Claire Yuen

SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

SUMMER PROGRAM INNOVATION



Students visit Alberta Legislature. Photo by Ho Jung.

Faculté Saint-Jean's intensive summer programs have found a new way to motivate participants to speak French only during the six-week summer sessions in Edmonton (AB) and La Pocatière (QC). The team of teachers and workshop leaders of the summer bursary language program (Programme de bourses enseignement des langues – PBEL) has given play money to staff at Faculté so that any student seen to be making a true effort at speaking French, even with a limited vocabulary, can be rewarded with these *dollars*. The object is not to punish students if they should speak anything else but French, but rather to offer recompenses for using the French language. At the end of the courses, students will be able to bid on certain coveted donated items using their special *dollars*.

This year, four instructors teach French as a second language to 53 students, ranging from beginner to advanced levels. Students study French, participate in a variety of workshops and socio-cultural activities and outings; day-trips and week-end getaways, *en français bien sûr*, are also part of the credited summer program of study.

CPF HONOURS PROFESSOR LUCILLE MANDIN

Saturday, October 18, 2003, Professor **Lucille Mandin** received the Canadian Parents for French of Alberta's *Special Friend of CPF Alberta and French-second-language Programs* award. The award was given to her during the banquet celebrating the 25-year anniversary of CPF-Alberta. The association bestows this honour on a person or association for their significant contribution in French Immersion or in the teaching of core French. Professor Mandin believes that "bilingualism is a plus, a gift". Upon receiving the award, she stated that she "was very happy to have been able to work with people who share her beliefs". Faculté Saint-Jean offers its warmest congratulations to education professor Lucille Mandin! ◆



Lucille Mandin receives a commemorative plaque from Fiona Scholten, past president of CPF-Alberta.

SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

FRENCH FOR THE FUTURE

Faculté Saint-Jean's community encompasses a wide-ranging array of organisations which have prevailed upon the dean's invitation to use the Faculté's facilities for their activities. For example, "French for the Future" held its videoconference at Centre Saint-Jean on April 20, 2004.

Students from eight Edmonton and area high schools, as well as students from across the country, were linked electronically to share their opinions with His Excellency **John Ralston Saul**, who founded French for the Future in 1997. Ever faithful to his belief of "an engaged citizen in a complex society", the eminent writer opened the discussions in Calgary amidst fifteen 'Ambassadors' representing as many Canadian cities. The North-West Territories and all the provinces had delegates.

This project aims to encourage dialogue and the exchange of ideas, and to foster a better understanding between young people across the country. Mr. Saul is particularly concerned by the statistics-supported fact that young adults aged 18 and over do not exercise their right to vote: "This is a catastrophe for our democracy." He thus opened the discussion with a question submitted by some participants: "Do you participate enough in the political system? If not, why? What are your priorities?"



Responses were varied. Some students think that the government does not offer them a chance to participate when they are young, and that there should be more interactive opportunities for Canadian youth to communicate with their government. Others were of the opinion that adults should set an example, while still others believe that it is up to each and every one of them to get involved, and to begin on a small scale to gain assurance, etc. Francophones and Francophiles alike were pleased that the "French for the Future" conference enabled them to exchange ideas and to get to know each other better.

The Province of Manitoba and the Fondation Trudeau Foundation are important backers of French for the Future. ◆



Students from Maurice-Lavallée School in Edmonton.



Pascal Couture, science and technology teacher at Maurice-Lavallée School, was responsible for the event's coordination in Edmonton. He believes that "being bilingual represents not only an advantage in the work force, but carries a responsibility as well."

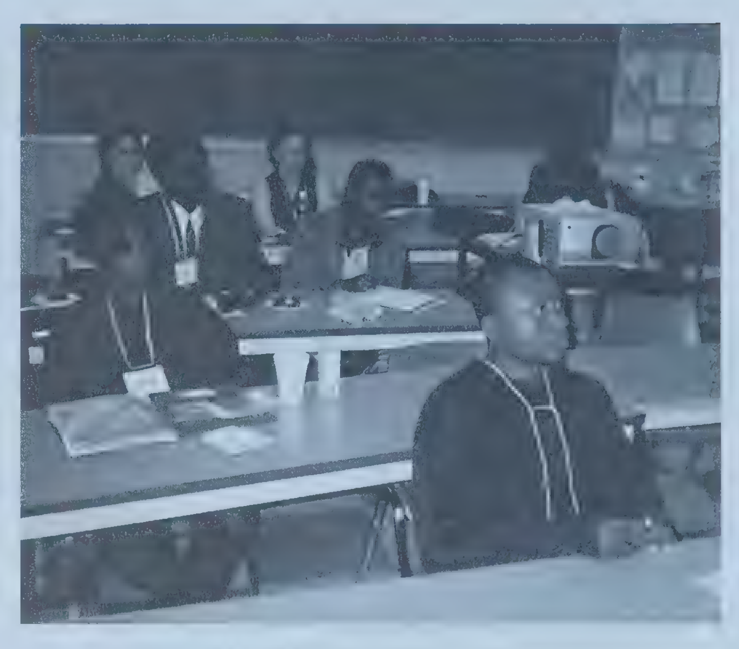
SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION

Another group with an eye to the future is the Madeleine Sanam Foundation. It holds workshops each month at Faculté Saint-Jean in order to offer training to members of the community wishing to play a more active role in the prevention of HIV-AIDS amongst their peers. The International Association of Medical Students at the University of Alberta supplies facilitators for the workshops.

Chantal Londgi Dang, now of Edmonton, established the foundation in honour of her sister Madeleine Sanam, who died of leukemia at the age of 28 in 1988 in Douala, Cameroon. During her short life, Madeleine Sanam worked tirelessly against the social factors directly related to the spread of HIV-AIDS: inequality, polygamy, poverty, drug and alcohol addiction, and the sex trade.

Sponsors of the Madeleine Sanam Foundation workshops are Faculté Saint-Jean and the Edmonton Community for Learning Association (ECALA). Workshops are held the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of each month. For more information, contact Chantal Londgi Dang at: **ldc_prod@telusplanet.net .**



A group of people at the April 24, 2004, training session.

LA COALITION DES FEMMES DE L'ALBERTA

A Francophone women's group of Alberta also prevailed upon the Faculté's hospitality and hosted its annual meeting at Centre Saint-Jean on April 2, 2004. Representatives of Francophone provincial organizations as well as individual members came together in Edmonton under the 'Women of Heart, Women of Action' theme. The Coalition has established a partnership with la Chambre économique de l'Alberta (Francophone Chamber of Commerce of Alberta) in order to meet its numerous objectives. It also receives funding from Heritage Canada.

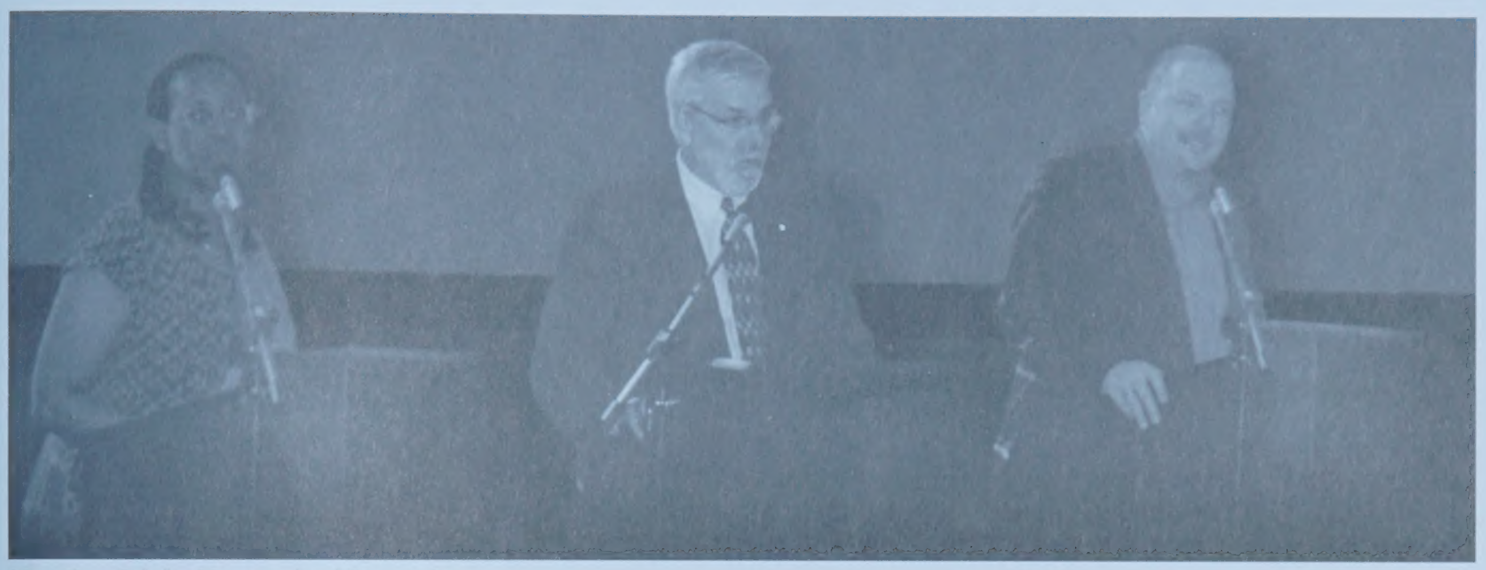
Guest speaker **Adèle Porato**, of Lethbridge, spoke on cultivating a positive outlook. Workshops on provincial consultation, the economy, media relations, and handling interviews were held on the second day of this annual meeting. ◆



The Board of Governors of la Coalition des femmes de l'Alberta are, from left to right, in the 1st row: Thérèse Dallaire, Jeannette Létourneau (President), Claire Dallaire, and Suzanne Lamy-Thibaudeau (Coordinator). In the same order, in the second row: Adèle Porato, Carole Émard, Isabelle Deschênes-Guay, and Denise Beaudry-Hart. Missing is Jacqueline Bégin, Peace River area representative.

SAINT-JEAN'S COMMUNITY

RWANDA – 10 YEARS LATER



Marie-Rose Bukuba, Marc Arnal and François Pageau.

The following week, the Days of Rwanda were held at Saint-Jean to commemorate the genocide of more than 800 000 Rwandans over a 100-day period in 1994. Taking part in the opening ceremonies held April 8th, 2004, were **François Pageau**, Regional Director of Programming for la Société Radio-Canada in Edmonton, **Marie-Rose Bukuba**, Master's student in Canadian Studies at FSJ and Vice-President of the Rwandan Association of Edmonton, and **Marc Arnal**, Dean of FSJ.



Esther Mujawayo-Keiner. Photo by Marianne Tremblay of the French-Canadian Association of Alberta, Edmonton branch, and graciously submitted by Le Franco.

A cultural exhibition and a conference by **Esther Mujawayo-Keiner**, a survivor of the 1994 genocide, completed the programming of the three-day commemorative activities.

In her presentation, Mrs. Mujawayo-Keiner, a psychotherapist and writer, stressed the fact that more than half of the women widowed – and not killed outright – in the most recent genocide of our history, were raped and infected by men who knew they were HIV carriers. The irony of it all is that large amounts of money are being spent to keep the rapists alive to bring them to trial, while the women they victimized receive no help and are dying before the trials for lack of costly medical treatment. The psychotherapist asked those present to exert pressure upon the Canadian Government so that these women might receive the medical attention they so urgently need.

L'Aube, a French publishing house, will soon release Esther Mujawayo-Keiner's book *SurVivante* or SurVivor, recounting her personal experience of the Rwandan genocide. The author has also established l'Association des veuves du génocide Agahozo (AVEGA), the Association of widows of the Agahozo Genocide, in order to bring help to the thousands of widows and orphans of the Rwandan Genocide. ◆



Emotions, painfully clear, are reflected on the faces of those watching an amateur movie retelling the story of the Rwandan genocide of 1994. Marie-Rose Bukuba feels the need to "restore human dignity" after the genocide, and asked for "concrete measures to be taken by the academic world, the builders of tomorrow… May these commemorative days be a springboard for reflection on personal and collective responsibility."

Literature: Nancy Huston
continued from page 23...

children; she went on to explain that living amongst her children had, on the other hand, enabled her to reject once and for all the nihilism so prevalent in Continental European literature. ►

Professor Laurier Fagnan
continued from page 27...

characterized by the beauty of sound, the fluidity of the musical phrase, and the virtuosity of execution by singers.

Throughout his studies, Professor Fagnan has been the recipient of numerous prestigious scholarships, namely: the Baxter & Alma Ricard Foundation, the Government of Alberta Graduate Fellowship, the École nationale de la chanson (Montreal) Scholarship, the Johann Strauss Scholarship for Studies in Austria, the Edmonton Opera Guild Scholarship in Voice and the Richard Eaton Scholarship in Voice.

Laurier and his wife Jane, a lawyer and pianist, have three children. All of them study music: Alicia, the piano; Matthieu, the violin; and Stéphane, the cello. ◆

Jennifer Dodsworth
continued from page 24...

the summer of 2002, she was an *au pair*, or nanny, in Toulouse, France. Because of these varied experiences, Jennifer now has friends from all over the world.

Her parents, Gary and Judy Dodsworth, are Anglophones, but they decided that their four children would attend the French Immersion schools where they live, in Edson, a town situated about an hour northwest of Edmonton. The verdict is in: Jennifer is perfectly bilingual. The young woman is adamant: her studies at Faculté Saint-Jean have a lot to do with this state of affairs. Congratulations, Jennifer! ◆

Nancy Huston's books are published by Actes Sud. Her much-acclaimed *Cantiques des Plaines/Plainsong* will soon be made into a movie. Before moving to Paris, Huston studied at Sarah Lawrence College in New York. In 1973, she spent a year studying in Paris; that is when she learned French. She stayed on and did a Master's at l'École des Hautes études en Sciences sociales under the direction of Roland Barthes. It is also in Paris that Nancy Huston met philosopher and essayist Tzvetan Todorov, whom she married. They have two children.

Nancy Huston writes in both French and English. When she writes in French, she writes her own English version, and vice-versa. *Cantique des plaines*, the French version of her novel *Plainsong*, won the Governor General's Prize for best novel written in French in 1993; but The Canada Council for the Arts, in 2000, refused to admit for consideration *The Mark of the Angel*, the English version of her French book *L'Empreinte de l'ange*. The controversy remains regarding her books in Canada: are they original works or translations? The author simply claims ownership of both versions. She has won numerous literary awards in France. ◆

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FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN NEWS

This English edition of Faculté Saint-Jean's French newsletter *Nouvelles de Saint-Jean* is published once a year to inform the broader community of the various accomplishments and activities of the Faculté.

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